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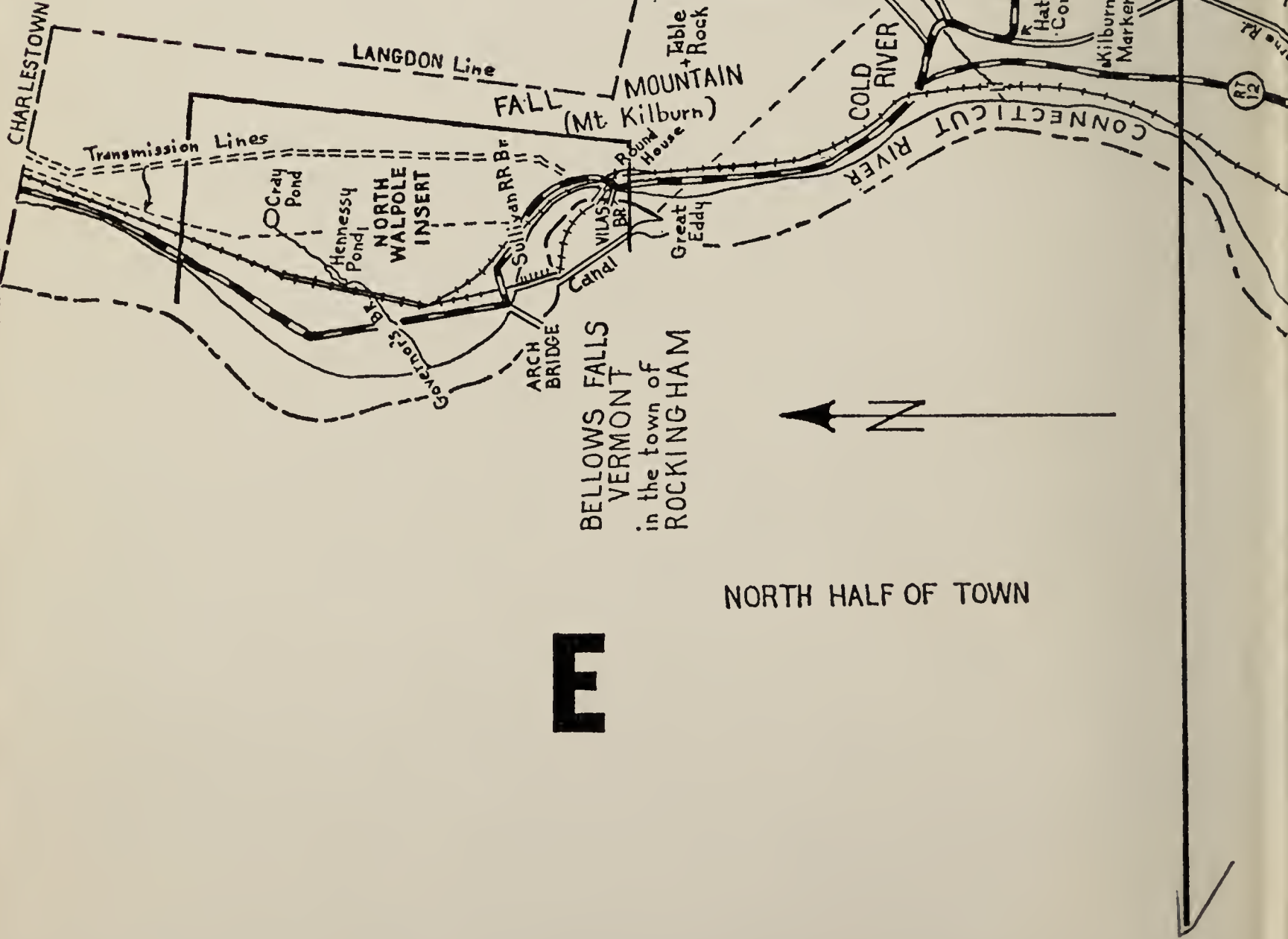
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1962

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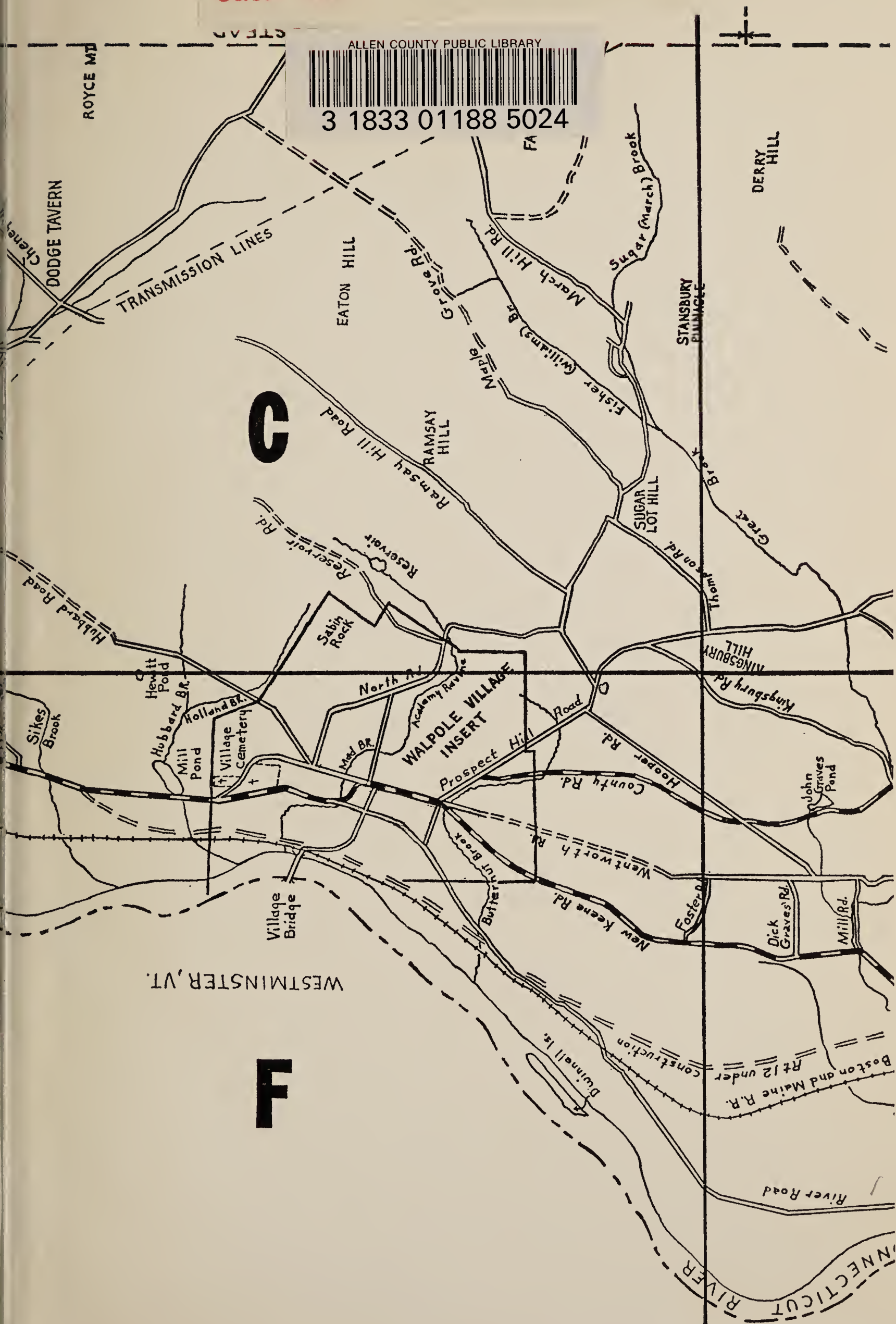


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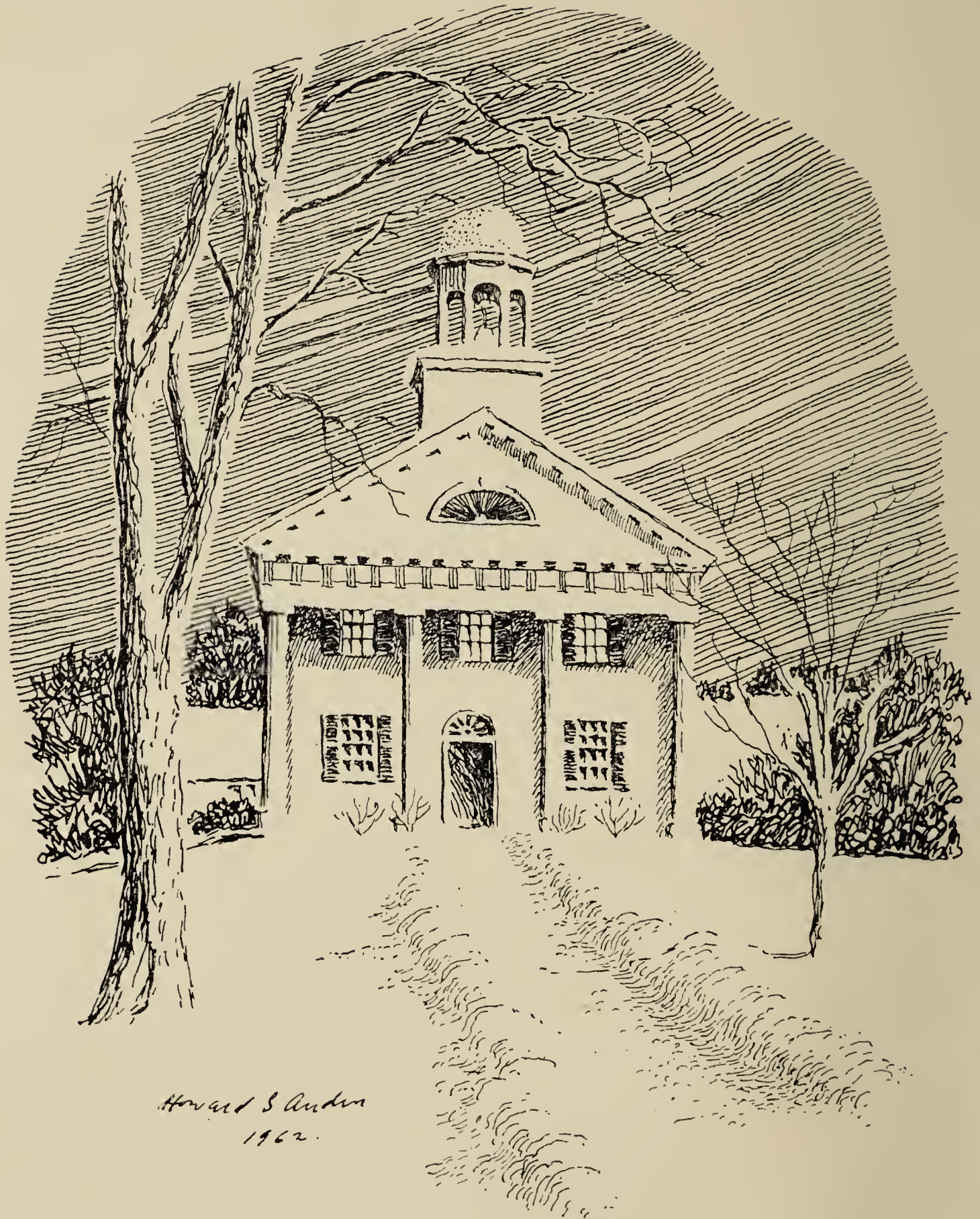






A HISTORY OF  
WALPOLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE





*The Old Academy*



A History of  
WALPOLE  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

*by*

Martha McDanolds Frizzell

R E S E A R C H

Anita Houghton Aldrich

D R A W I N G S

Howard Sartwell Andros

M A P S

Mary Anna North Tatem

VOLUME I

WALPOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY • TOWN OF WALPOLE

1963

THE HISTORY COMMITTEE

Anita Houghton Aldrich

Howard Sartwell Andros

Martha McDanolds Frizzell

Donald Eldred Hubbard

Donald Hawkes Spitzli

Mary Anna North Tatem

MANAGING EDITOR

Donald Hawkes Spitzli

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## INTRODUCTION

Most of us are interested in people and what they have done, especially if they are our own people. Many of us take more pleasure in finding a reference to an obscure ancestor who lived in a certain house at some particular time than in a scholarly historical discussion.

I am sure that no conscious effort was made, when this HISTORY was begun, to make it the history of every man who has lived in Walpole. It would have been easier to make a compilation of the public records of the prominent citizens who were vigorous, articulate and influential. There have been many of these in Walpole and we shall not neglect them. But somewhere along the way, and the way has been long, our information became massive with the records of many citizens. While it was evident that we could not relate family legend about all who have lived here, it became our objective to have, somewhere in the book, a reference to everyone who has lived in the town.

Such an objective can never be accomplished fully. We believe we have included records for those who have owned homes, voted, been born or buried here. But the old records are not complete. Those who lived here briefly without owning a home, voting or making some mark will be missed.

We like to think that this HISTORY will be of particular interest and utility because of its chapter on Homesteads. We have endeavored to trace all the owners, with dates of ownership, of each homestead in the town. Occasionally we have met dead ends in the records or become confused in unrecorded transfers and inheritances. Anyone who has done work of this kind will understand our shortcomings.

Later on we shall endeavor to give specific credit to those who have helped prepare this HISTORY. Here I would pay tribute to the spirit which has made possible this work.

I would not know who first thought of writing a new "History of Walpole". I suspect that dozens of townspeople, while rereading ALDRICH have had the thought. But some of our people went to work, collected fragments of history which ALDRICH did not have, interviewed oldsters to winnow history from their memories, visited graveyards, toiled through county records, wrote of their church or society, dug through attics for old pictures, prepared an article for the Town Warrant, voted for that article, typed, proofread. However the spark was started or by whom, at the right time it ignited an interest which spread to envelop us all. If you live in Walpole in 1963 and are interested enough to be reading this HISTORY there is a probability that you helped in its preparation.

DONALD HAWKES SPITZLI



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## VOLUME II

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We have been fortunate in having in Walpole a person so keenly interested in people, their houses, tradition and their interrelation that we called upon her constantly for clarification, explanation and her ever-willing help. We acknowledge the debt we owe to

EDITH COLE TIFFANY



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In this field  
stood the Cabin of

JOHN KILBURN

The First Settler

of WALPOLE

in 1749

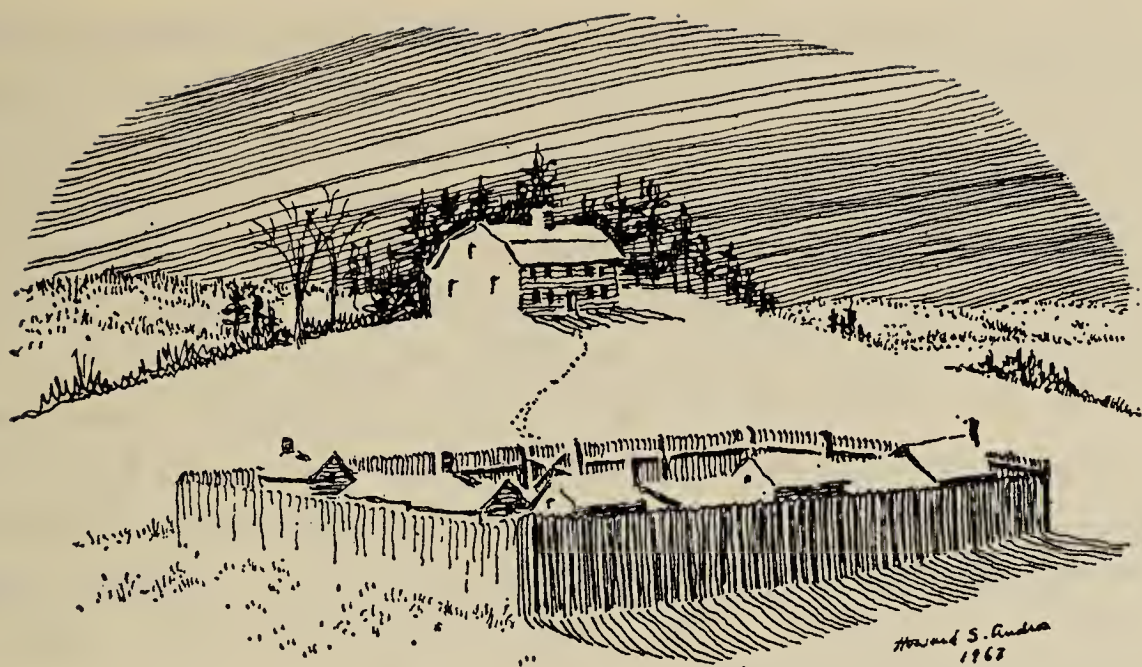
Here occurred his  
Heroic Defense  
against the

INDIANS

August 17<sup>th</sup> 1755







*Benjamin Bellows' Fort*

#471

## Chapter I

### WALPOLE AS IT WAS AND AS IT IS

**I**N 1724, when Fort Dummer was erected at Brattleboro, Vt., unbroken wilderness stretched north along the Connecticut to Canada, east to the settlements on the Merrimack and west to the Hudson. The country was inhabited only by wild animals and roving Indians who passed through the territory on hunting and fishing expeditions or on their way to the settlements to the south.

What is now included in the present town of Walpole was one unbroken forest, shading the deep rich soil. What is now called Derry Hill was thickly wooded with a heavy growth of beech, birch and maple. Boggy Meadow and the table-lands east were heavily timbered, mostly with stately white pines, towering, in many instances, to one hundred and fifty feet or more; while on the river bank monstrous elms and buttonwoods luxuriated in the deep mellow soil. Fall Mountain also was covered with a heavy growth of white pines, which had perhaps withstood the blasts of centuries.

Up until the year 1738 New Hampshire was a part of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. By action of the General Court of Massachusetts in January 1735, surveyors and chainmen came to lay out townships from the Merrimack west to the Great Falls of the Connecticut and south to the earlier grants. In 1736 Massachusetts granted the township of No. 3 (Walpole)

to John Flynt and others. There is no record of any further activity until March 28, 1738, when the grantees of No. 3 met at Concord, Mass., and chose a committee of seven (to have the assistance of a surveyor and others) to clear a way from Keene to the new town. On December 5, 1738, a report was made and accounts allowed. May we assume that the way cleared, though not more than a bridle path, followed what in later years became the Keene Road by the Merriam place (#354)?

No doubt the Farnsworths and others coming from Lunenburg followed this path on their way to settle No. 4 in 1740. Mrs. Johnson in her *Narrative* (p. 7) described her trip to No. 4 in 1744 as a cautiously travelled journey through the gloomy forest, guided by marked trees. Scattered along the way were a few solitary inhabitants who appeared the representatives of wretchedness.

Col. William Heywood in his *Journal* recounted travelling to and from Fort Dummer and No. 4, mentioning No. 2, but not mentioning No. 3 until August 1749 when he made an entry of seeing seven or eight guarded people at No. 3.

Following the activity of the grantees in 1738 the record is blank for thirteen years. The name of John Flint, who seemed to be the leader of the grantees, never appears again in the records after the meeting of 1738. He probably either died or sold his shares.

There is no indication that the proprietors ever again came to No. 3 although it is possible they came for reconnaissance late in 1751. At that time they made plans for settling the town, including the building of a mill either on Cold River or Beaver Brook (not identified). Since New Hampshire was no longer a part of Massachusetts but was a separate colony, the grantees, in 1752, petitioned for a New Hampshire grant but failed to get one.

Contemporary with the Flint grant, the General Court of Massachusetts gave to the governor, Jonathan Belcher, a grant of 1000 acres of which 600 acres lay on the east side of the river. This was surveyed by Rev. Ebenezer Hinsdale with Samuel Burr and Ephraim Kellogg as chainmen. It began at two butternut trees on the bank of the river at the lower end of the third intervale meadow below Cold River and extended about one and one-half miles up the river to another butternut tree. This included what is now Walpole. There is no record that Gov. Belcher ever occupied this land, but did he sell it, or some part of it, to John Kilburn?

At that time conditions were such that one did not venture into the wilderness with hope of great reward, even though the land along the Connecticut was reputed to be well worth the effort. In addition to the



usual hardships two factors beyond the control of the grantees affected their project. The first was the uncertainty of their title due to the territorial dispute between New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The second adverse factor was the unsettled situation between England and France who were on the brink of war. Although the Indians had been more or less friendly, French offers of rewards for scalps and prisoners made English life on the frontier hazardous at best. The war was finally declared by Great Britain March 29, 1744.

Even though Flint and his associates had not made a settlement at No. 3, there is evidence from the following account that there was already a settlement at Putney. Also, land was under cultivation on Boggy Meadow as early as 1745 for the Aldrich history states that on October 12 of that year a body of French and Indians, the latter twelve in number, attacked the garrison at Great Meadow (Putney) at noon. There was a brisk fight in which one Indian was killed, but the fort was so well defended that the enemy withdrew after fighting for an hour and a half. In lieu of victory they killed and drove off most of the cattle and captured Nehemiah How who was cutting wood about 80 rods from the fort. As they led him along the west bank of the river, they espied "two men approaching in a canoe when they fired and killed one of them, David Rugg, and the other, Robert Baker, made for the opposite shore and escaped. The Indians scalped Rugg and mounted the scalp on a pole and carried it through Charlestown in triumph to Crown Point. This David Rugg was the identical man (without much doubt) who, tradition says, was hoeing corn on Boggy Meadow and was shot by the Indians from the west bank of the river, and was buried on what is now called Rugg Meadow, near the river just opposite the lower farmhouse." (AH)

In *Gathered Sketches* (p. 62) we find the following: "The first civilized inhabitant of the present town of Walpole was John Kilburn who arrived in 1749. The large and fertile meadows at the mouth of Cold River, slightly covered with tall butternut and ancient elms, presented an inviting prospect and easy harvest to the hand of cultivation. Just above them, along the east bank of the Connecticut, was the defile, bounded by steep mountains, which formed the Indian highway to and from the settlement at No. 4 (Charlestown). There, too, was the head of shad navigation, the great fishing ground of the savages from time immemorial. Next below this narrow pass by the river, and nearer the meadows, was the site of an ancient Indian village. Next on the south, and bounding the meadows northerly, was Cold River. The meadows themselves were about a half mile in extent, bounded on the east by a steep



wooded bank forty feet high. It was here the adventurous and hardy Kilburn built himself a log hut, and here, with his family, he inhabited the solitude of the forest without any intercourse with friend or foe."

At this time there was to the north the fort at No. 4 and to the south were Hinsdale's and Bridgman's Forts at Hinsdale, Fort Dummer at Brattleboro, Vt., and two forts on the Putney meadows for the protection of Putney and Westminster. Keene had been settled in 1739; Chesterfield in 1736 and Westmoreland in 1741.

In February 1752 Benjamin Bellows obtained a charter to the town of Walpole from the governor of New Hampshire, and took possession, bringing his family here in 1753. About a mile and a half south of Kilburn's cabin he erected his dwelling. "It was built sufficiently commodious to be called a fort, and shaped like the letter 'L', being about one hundred feet in the arms and twenty feet broad, strongly built of logs and earth, and surrounded by a palisade." (*AH* 18)

From the top of the fort he had constructed a lookout into the forks of a large elm tree standing nearby, commanding an extensive view in all directions. There is said to have been another fort on the river bank near the Patch place (#528) to protect the settlers going to and from Westminster which was settled early. It appears that Col. Bellows drew at public expense men and supplies for his fort, including a heavy iron cannon.

At first Col. Bellows took his corn by boat to Northampton to be ground. As soon as he could acquire adequate help and materials, he built a mill at the foot of Blanchard Falls.

The affairs of the settlers in Walpole prospered until 1755 when this alarming event occurred. "One Flynt and Daniel Twitchell . . . went back on the hill east to procure some ash timber for oars, and were both shot by the Indians; one was scalped, the other was cut open and his heart taken out, cut in pieces and laid on his breast. Flynt was buried on the spot; Twitchell, having friends, was carried away and buried elsewhere. The exact spot where Flynt was buried is about one and a half (or two) miles from Walpole village, on the Drewsville road, about fifteen rods from the corner of the first woods, and four rods west of the highway" in a spot marked by a ridge of land. (*AH* 23)

"In the spring of 1755 an Indian by the name of Philip, who had learned just English enough to be understood, visited Kilburn's log house, under the pretence of being on a hunting excursion and in want of provisions. He was treated with kindness and furnished liberally with flints, meal and various other articles which he

asked for. Soon after his departure it was ascertained that the same Indian had visited all the settlements on the Connecticut River, with the same plausible story. The conclusion was with Kilburn and his fellow-settlers that Philip was a scout employed by the enemy. This suspicion was soon after confirmed by intelligence received at all forts on the frontiers, through a friendly Indian, from Governor Shirley at Albany. He stated that four or five hundred of the savages were collected in Canada, whose object was to butcher the whole white population on Connecticut River. The settlers, and those of Walpole among the number, were startled by these tidings; but they were not disheartened.

"Kilburn proceeded to put up what defenses he could, adding a palisade of stakes around his cabin. On August 17, 1755, Kilburn, his 18 year old son John, a man Peak and his son, were returning from work about noon when one of them noticed among the alders bordering the meadow the red legs of Indians 'as thick as grasshoppers'. They hurried to the Kilburn cabin and began preparations for their defense, assisted by Mrs. Kilburn and daughter Hitty. As they watched the bank east of the house, they saw the Indians crawling through the brush, and as they crossed the footpath counted 197.

"At the same time Col. Bellows with about 30 men had been to his mill and was returning home, each with a sack of meal on his back. When his dogs began to growl the Colonel suspected the presence of Indians. He ordered his men to drop their meal, advance to the rising ground just above them, carefully crawl up the bank, spring to their feet with a shout and instantly drop among the tall ferns.

"The maneuver succeeded; the Indians rising in a semi-circle round the path ahead. The Colonel's men fired and so disconcerted the plans of the Indians that they darted away into the bushes without firing a gun. However, it was evident that the party was too numerous for the Colonel's men, so they made for the fort as best they could.

"The Indians then came out on the eminence east of the Kilburn cabin. Philip, as he was generally known, from behind a large tree called, 'Old John, young John, I know you; come out here; we will give you quarter.' 'Quarter,' shouted Kilburn, 'Quarter, you black rascals! Begone, or we will quarter you.'

"Disappointed in the response, Philip returned to the main body of his companions. After consultation they raised a blood-curdling war whoop. Kilburn, however, was able to get in the first fire and was confident that he brought down the extraordinarily large Philip. Now mustered in full force, the Indians rushed forward for the attack, riddling the cabin roof with their first fire. The firing continued while detachments butchered the cattle and destroyed the hay and grain.

"Inside the cabin the men kept their guns hot with incessant firing, taking careful aim to have every bullet tell, since the store was limited. The women helped with the loading and when the stock of lead grew scanty suspended blankets to catch the enemy's balls. These they melted and ran into new bullets.

"Several attempts were made to burst open the door, but for the most part the Indians kept behind stumps and trees. The incessant fire, however, was kept up until near sundown when they gradually retreated.

"How many of the Indians fell was never ascertained. Inside the cabin Peak only was wounded in the hip and for want of surgical aid died on the sixth day.

"Those at the Bellows fort could hear the incessant firing and were much concerned, but dared not venture forth. After the firing had ceased and darkness fallen, Peter



Bellows, with almost breathless silence, crept through the woods to learn the fate of the Kilburns."

This account is from the narrative as published 1826, said to have been written by Dr. Ebenezer Morse who gathered his information from the early settlers. (*Gathered Sketches* and *Walpole As It Was and As It Is* are based on the same source.)

An old St. Francis Indian, Joshark Noshark, living in New York State, many years later gave a full description of all that happened that day; the falls, the mountain, the mineral spring and the red and yellow paints which the tribe procured to decorate themselves when they visited the fishing grounds each year. He said that Philip was killed early in the battle and was buried south of the falls, a large flat stone placed over his grave. (Found when excavations were made in building the railroad.) He said that his tribe never attacked Walpole again because they believed that the Great Spirit frowned on their conduct toward Kilburn after his generous treatment of them.

In May 1888 an Indian skeleton was plowed up on the then George Jennison farm (somewhat to the south of the battle) under a pine tree by the roadside. It was in a sitting position, facing west, with a hole in the skull. Several were found in the same neighborhood during the building of the Cheshire Railroad. Arrowheads and other Indian relics were found frequently.

It has been generally understood that relations between John Kilburn and Benjamin Bellows were not the most cordial, each feeling that he had sole right to the town. Kilburn's right is supposed to have been bought from New York whose jurisdiction in Vermont was questionable, in New Hampshire non-existent. Bellows did deed two tracts to Kilburn, one near Cold River and one where Ira Hubbard now lives (#460). It may be noted that, even with the scarcity of men in town, John Kilburn was not included in the list of town officers until 1755. Many of the early office-holders were not even residents of the town.

#### DECADE 1760-1770

Up to this time Col. Bellows had shared the town only with the Kilburns and his own family. Town meetings were perfunctory affairs to meet the terms of the charter and consisted of little more than election of officers. Between 1760 and 1770 the following families are known to have been in town, from the records of town meetings and from the limited land records of the period. Until Cheshire County was formed in



1771, land transactions were recorded in Rockingham County. Consequently, many were not recorded, while a few were later inserted into the Cheshire County records. Bellows seems to have sold lots by contract, reserving title until the terms of the contract had been fulfilled. Many names of early "owners" never appeared in land records, although they were referred to as owners in deeds for abutting property. Unless otherwise indicated, the following numbers refer to homesteads, not structures.

JOHN KILBURN had moved to the place where Ira Hubbard now lives (#460).

SGT. ISRAEL CALKINS next south of Meeting House on North Main Street, sold to JOHN FRENCH, SAMUEL CHASE bought 1762.

EPHRAIM BALDWIN at Mabel Cole's (#27), same house.

THE REV. JONATHAN LEAVITT, corner Main and Westminster Streets, Asa Baldwin had built.

ASA BALDWIN, either North Main Street or top of hill on North Road.

NATHANIEL HOVEY (1760) Main Street at foot of Prospect.

ABRAHAM SMITH, west side Wentworth Road near Trafford Hicks (#281).

DANIEL DENISON at Roentsch (#283); later north part of Country Club.

NATHAN DELANO, at Roentsch (after Denison).

TIMOTHY DELANO at Frank Lewis' on Wentworth Road (#284).

JOHN CHANDLER, 300 acre farm along river next to Westmoreland line.

ANDREW SPEAR, next north of Chandler (Constable 1763).

ENS. WILLIAM SMEAD, at Franklin Barrett farm (#239), River Road, owning through to Wentworth Road.

JOHN GRAVES, on Graves land Wentworth Road, east and west from Allen Holmes (#291).

CONSTANTINE GILMAN, Stearns farm (#456), later Webber (#452) on Ramsay Hill.

JOHN PARMELEE (Pomaly), Ramsay Hill, Hoyt neighborhood (#448).

TIMOTHY MESSER, Malcolm Williams (#441).

JOHN MARCY (1763), Eastman (#449) or Walcott farm (#451), Ramsay Hill; later south of Howlands' (#446).

JONATHAN HALL, Lot next north of Allen Holmes (#291), Wentworth Road.

ELEAZER MELVIN (?)

MOSES BROWN (1764), #279 on Wentworth Road.

JAMES BUNDY, Brittons' (#413) Keene Road.

JOSEPH BARRETT, Beatrice Graves' (#259).

JOHN PEAKE (?)

EBENEZER EAGAN, probably Ramsay Hill, west side near top of first hill.

JEREMIAH PHELPS, probably in village.

JONATHAN EASTMAN (1765), Ramsay Hill, opposite Harris (#449).

SAMUEL ROOT (?)

MATTHEW HAMMOND (1766) (?)

EBENEZER EATON, Keene Road, Clarence Jennison (#335).

SAMUEL TROTT, later opposite Ira Hubbard (#460).

ISAAC JOHNSON (1767), west of Watkins Hill on County Road (#323).

LEMUEL HOLMES (1768), later west side Wentworth Road near Hicks (#281).

CHRISTOPHER WEBBER, Ramsay Hill (#452).

BENONI BANISTER (?)

GEORGE STOW, Albert Fletcher's (#440).

JOHN JENNISON (1769), Howlands', Ramsay Hill (#446).

AARON ALLEN, Watkins Hill, O'Brien (#333).

SIMEON CALKINS (?)

ITHIEL HOADLEY, District #5, old Ebenezer Stowell place (#414).

JOSIAH JOHNSON, Watkins Hill, Joseph Fay farm (#334).

ALEXANDER PARMELEE, Ramsay Hill.

BENONI FARNUM, at first down near Westmoreland line south of Carpenter Hill.

JONATHAN BIXBY, at Country Club (#410).

DANIEL BIXBY, at Reynolds', Kingsbury Road (#401).

Most of these families settled along Wentworth Road, the old Watkins Hill Road to Keene and on Ramsay Hill. The Bellows had kept for themselves most of the land from Cold River south to the village. In 1767 the first provincial census showed a population of 308, already beginning to center in the present village and further accelerated in that direction by the location of the first meeting house on the west side of North Main Street.

"It is inferred that during this decade there was no store kept in town, of any importance, for in an old ledger that once belonged to Aaron Burt of Northfield, Mass., are found accounts against sixteen Walpole men. In 1762 a large invoice of nails and hinges are charged to Benjamin Bellows the same year he built his new house." (AH)

An account of manners and customs of this decade was given in the *Cheshire Gazette* in 1826 in an article by Dr. Morse from material communicated to him by a Mrs. Watson of Pennsylvania. She lived in Walpole in 1762, aged eight years, having come with her father, John Fanning, and family from Stonington, Connecticut. They bought a piece of land, now the Blackwell place (Valley Farms) on Wentworth Road.

"They built a house of square timber, cut down the trees and cleared the land, so as to raise a good crop of corn the same year. The roof of the house was covered with bark, and the gable ends remained open for some time, which enabled them to hear the barking of foxes, the howling of wolves, and the cries of panthers. . . .

"The flesh of the deer and bear afforded the settlers many a delicious repast. Wild turkeys were trapped and shot, and quails and pigeons caught in nets in great abundance. The brooks were filled with trout and dace, and the river abounded in salmon and shad. . . .

"At this time (1762) there were about twelve or fifteen houses in town. The meeting house was unfinished; there was not a carriage in town, the travelling being performed on foot or horseback; sometimes three or four children were carried in this way at a time, besides a wife, on a pillion, and upsetting a load of this magnitude was not an uncommon occurrence.

"Col. Benjamin Bellows was the most considerable man in town; his eldest son,



Peter, was settled in Charlestown, where the people used to go often to attend meeting. A remarkable trait in the character of the first settlers was their punctuality in attending public worship. Mr. Leavitt, the minister, like other clergymen of that day, wore a large wig, full powdered, and when he entered the meeting house, the whole congregation rose to do obeisance to the man in black, who, in his turn, always responded with a formal bow. Powder was not worn on the hair by those who were contented with the use of eel-skin, which was considered as adding dignity to the wearer, in proportion to the size and length of the queue.

“Officers of the militia wore cocked hats. Of the ladies Mrs. Leavitt took the lead in dress; at church she wore a full suit of lustrous (a plain, stout, lustrous silk), without any bonnet, holding a fan to shade the sun from her face, as was the fashion ‘down country’.

“Next to her were the daughters of Col. Bellows, and their two half-sisters, Jennisons. They wore plain Quaker bonnets of black silk; white or colored ones were not seen. To improve their figures the ladies quilted their petticoats with wool, to make their hips show off to advantage, which contrasted with the smallness of the waist, painfully compressed with long stays. Home-made durants, camblets and serges, full of gay flowers of artificial needlework, were fashionable articles. Stockings, of their own knitting, and high-heeled shoes with buckles, were indispensable. It was thought an improvement to beauty and elegance to expose the petticoat before, through a screen of lawn apron, the gown being left to swing open. The hair was all combed back, leaving no curls nor ringlets about the face. Instead of following the modern fashion of covering the back part of the head, their bonnets were so much pitched forward that the cap and back part of the head were exposed.

“A large portion of pin money was derived from the sale of gold thread, ginseng, and snake root, which were procured by their own hands. Dr. Chase was the only physician . . .”

## DECADE 1770-1780

In 1771 the town began to raise money for the support of schools and built three schoolhouses. In 1775 the town thanked Col. Bellows for his gift of 100 acres for a school, probably not realizing that this was a charter stipulation. There is no record as to where this plot was located, no deed having been found recorded.

During these early days, an inhabitant working on the highways was paid four pence an hour.

In 1772 it was voted “that the constable warn out of town every person that comes in, that has no estate in town”, this having become one of the duties of that functionary. Some of the people so warned managed to get into town and later became town officials; for example, Benoni Banister, his wife Ruth and their five children. In those days tramps would have fared hard.

The town voted to pay a wolf bounty of 40 shillings. Aaron Hodskin's first money was a wolf bounty. With the money he bought a saddle and



pair of steers. Wolves were quite numerous, congregating in great numbers in the hemlock woods that then covered the Valley. Bears and catamounts were frequently seen and killed.

“On the 19th of April, 1775, was fought the Battle of Lexington, and messengers were immediately dispatched from the scene of strife to every town of any importance in New England bearing the news. As soon as the news reached Walpole, Gen. Benjamin Bellows, his next brother, Col. John, and Thomas Sparhawk mounted their horses and started for Lexington followed by a large number of townsmen. . . . There were thirty-five that went from Walpole on this occasion, and they were out about eleven days on this expedition. (See also *History of Keene*.)

“Gen. Benjamin Bellows, though he rose from the lowest office in the militia of the state to be a Brigadier General, never was long in the field. He was mostly engaged in raising troops for the regular United States service and was one of the principal men in the state sought for when any aid to the National Government was wanting. Twice he marched his own regiment to Ticonderoga, first in October 1776, for a service of twenty-five days; and again, June 28, 1777, to reinforce the garrison there besieged by the enemy, when, according to the pay-roll, the time of service was only twelve days. Finally, he carried his regiment, September 21, 1777, to reinforce the Northern Continental Army at Saratoga under the command of Gen. Gates at the time when Burgoyne surrendered. . . . In Gen. Bellows’ account with the government is a charge for a horse killed in his service, but it is not stated whether killed under the General or not.

“Most likely many of the men from this town were with Gen. Bellows at this time for it is said, ‘all the men from Walpole went to Saratoga’. Gen. Bellows was highly complimented by Gen. Gates for the services he rendered him with his men from Cheshire County, on that occasion. . . . Mr. Lyman Watkins . . . says among the Walpole men in the above named battle was one Crane and one Hall, who went out with Gen. Bellows as scouts and fell in with Indians and captured one hundred and fifty in the first day of their service. Crane had a dreadful encounter with an Indian armed with a cutlass which in the struggle he grasped, cutting his fingers in such a way as to be unable to open his hand ever after. . . .

“Thomas Bellows in speaking of the men who went to Saratoga from Walpole remembered the names of twelve, among whom were Ephraim Stearns, Farnam, Messer, Lawrence, Massey, etc. Although his memory was very remarkable, he never was able to recall to mind the name of the twelfth one. After hesitating a moment he would say, ‘No matter, ’twas a black man any way.’ This black man was a blacksmith who had a shop on a farm near where the old meeting-house used to stand . . . (Hooper School site). . . .

“August 16, 1777, was fought the Battle of Bennington which decided the fate of Burgoyne. . . . During the day the booming of the cannon was distinctly heard on the Walpole hills and in the valleys (according to tradition). Moses Burt was with another man, stooking wheat in his field, when he heard the reports of cannon reverberating from mountain to mountain. He and his men immediately set out for the seat of war. Roger Wolcott also heard the firing and left for the scene of conflict the next day. Most of the surrounding towns had to keep an eye on Tories in their midst; but Walpole seems to have been free from them. With the exception of Gen. Bellows,

Col. Christopher Webber appears to be the only man that gained military distinction during the Revolutionary struggle.” (AH)

“Voted John Bellows Esqr have and receive out of the Treasury Twelve Pounds nine Shillings in full for eight Guns supply’d by the Town of Walpole for Capt. John Marcy’s Company in Col. Reed’s regiment in June 1775. . . .” (Page 418 *Journal of the House* (1776) )

“Col. Benjamin Bellows died July 10, 1777. . . . In person he was tall and stout, weighing, a short time before his death, three hundred and thirty pounds; but still he continued, until late in life, looking after his extensive farm interests; riding about his farm on a strong sorrel horse, from place to place, with his son Josiah (aged 9 at his father’s death) mounted behind, ready to slip off as occasion required to let down the bars. He lived in a style that necessitated much activity and forethought to satisfy the daily demands of his own household, to say nothing of the numerous strangers and public men who were hospitably treated and cared for, as they called when going and coming. A large oaken table, in the kitchen under his house was always spread for his workmen. He maintained a separate table for his own family. He raised his own stores, and killed an ox or a cow every week, which was consumed by the family. He made four hundred barrels of cider annually and put down twenty barrels of pork every winter. Eggs were brought in by the half bushel, and salmon was so common that his hired men stipulated that they should not have it oftener than three times a week.” (AH)

#### DECADE 1780-1790

In 1790 the town called upon Thomas and Theodore Bellows to answer to the charge of voting illegally. Anyone who knew the Squire would hardly believe that he could have been caught in such a situation. The town does not seem to have pushed the matter farther than a gentle remonstrance, while the Squire vindicated his act satisfactorily to himself on the ground of representing his property. However, Elisha Marsh, the moderator, who dared to question the voting rights of the Bellows boys, was dismissed from office and an attempt was made to remove him as a judge.

During this decade the trouble arising from the claims of both New York and New Hampshire to what is now the state of Vermont reached a climax. (See AH 52.) Most of the settlers on the New Hampshire Grants on the east side of the Connecticut River were from the state of Connecticut and had more in common with the people of Vermont than with those in the eastern part of New Hampshire. When a Vermont constitution was formed in 1778, sixteen towns in New Hampshire applied for admission. The towns were admitted, with the power to send representatives. Other towns might join by passing a majority vote to that effect. It had been represented to the Vermont Assembly that the State of New Hampshire would not notice the movement, and also that the petitioning



towns were unanimous in their votes to be annexed, whereas in some towns a bare majority was procured in the most unscrupulous and underhanded way. The seceding towns justified their course on the following grounds: that the original grant of New Hampshire was limited by a line drawn 60 miles from the sea; that the lands west of this line were annexed to the province merely by royal authority and, as that authority ceased at the Declaration of Independence, the inhabitants of those lands had reverted to a state of nature and might form such political connections as were most convenient.

The Vermont Assembly soon found that such encroachment upon the territory of New Hampshire was frowned upon by Congress, to whom Vermont was looking for admission to the Union.

Matters had become pretty well mixed up, and the most intense excitement prevailed on both sides of the river. It required the most astute wisdom and caution on the part of Vermont's leading men to know what course to pursue. One party was bound to dismember New Hampshire, another to annihilate Vermont, a third party to adhere to New York, while a fourth was desirous of forming a new state of all the western New Hampshire grants.

Congress delayed making any decision in the matter. Finally on November 8, 1780, a group of leading men met informally at Charlestown to exchange views and to initiate some movement to better their condition. The New York adherents were foremost in this movement. Since there was unanimity of sentiment in regard to consolidating the grants, a convention was called at Walpole.

Some of the towns on the east side of the river were annexed to Vermont, courts were established and sheriffs appointed. When disputes were referred to the courts for settlement, the parties sought the one they preferred; but when executive officers like sheriffs and constables attempted to exercise their functions and authority, a collision was the consequence.

May 25, 1781, Walpole, Westmoreland and Swanzey forwarded the following petition to Concord: "Some firmly attached to the interest of New Hampshire set forward a Convention of Delegates (at Walpole 1780) from the several towns in Cheshire county for the purpose of the union of the whole of the New Hampshire Grants as their doings show—when a more general Convention from all the Towns on the Grants was agreed upon. At their meeting a Union with the State of Vermont was agreed upon with this and Grafton County upon terms inconsistent with our connection with this state, and our fidelity to the United States (at Charlestown January 1781).

"Some protested in the Convention against the union, and in our Town Meetings, but a Majority prevailed against us, so as to prevent a compliance with your Requisi-



tions for men, money and beef, except that agreeable to our usual expeditions we have raised our men saving one for filling up the Continental Battalions. Our case is pitiable and calls for speedy direction and relief; we have ever thought ourselves members of one of the thirteen United States. . . . We have been practically united with Hampshire in framing the present temporary Constitution. . . . To be cut off from the United States (as we must by a union with Vermont) and not to be included in their confederation is what we most heartily deprecate—and if more strenuous exertions are not made, by the state to which we profess to belong, than we have yet felt, we must sink under the unequal contest. Our situation is perplexed, a majority of our selectmen are for Vermont, one Constable also, Town affairs are stagnated, we know not what to do. We desire something Categorical and conclusive by way of answer to the following queries—whether you mean to consider the Grants East of Connecticut River as a part of your State. . . . Whether it be advisable to submit to any mandates from Vermont, and how far to resist? Whether we can raise Men, Money, Beef, etc. for the use of the Army, individually considered, and have the same discount so much proportion of our share of the publick Debt? . . . We have appointed the bearer hereof to continue to set in the convention at Concord provided you give a favorable answer to this. . . .”

In 1791 Congress finally voted that the union between Vermont and the Grants should be dissolved, thus forever severing a union from which no good had ever resulted. The Vermont adherents on the east side of Connecticut River were very indignant and did not cease to make trouble, whenever and wherever an opportunity presented, for two or three years after. Feeling ran high in Walpole, many of the large, influential families favoring union with Vermont (Halls, Hoopers, Hutchens, Graves and many others). A more complete account of the Vermont Controversy may be found in Aldrich's *Walpole As It Was and As It Is*, in Saunderson's *History of Charlestown*, and numerous other sources.

There were other stresses than those stemming from the Vermont Controversy. In 1781 the town was asked to supply seven men for the continuing Revolutionary War, not an easy demand to meet.

“Although sorely pressed on every side, in order to make ends meet, still they are holding meetings several times a year to see about moving or finishing their meeting house, sometimes undoing what was done at meetings previously held, sometimes doing nothing but adjourn.

“The feasibility of building a bridge across Connecticut river was considered visionary by the ‘knowing ones’ when the subject was mentioned, and in those days it might have been considered a Herculean task, but Col. Enoch Hale, a citizen of Rindge, moved to Walpole in 1784, obtained a charter from the Legislature for a toll-bridge and erected in 1785 the first bridge that ever spanned Connecticut river. It was built just below the principal fall at Bellows Falls and connected

Walpole with Rockingham. The 'experiment', as many regarded it, attracted a great deal of attention at the time, and gave Col. Hale a widespread reputation. It remained the only bridge on the river till 1796. Its length was three hundred and sixty feet and its height above the water about fifty feet." (AH)

#### DECADE 1790-1800

The new meeting-house on Prospect Hill was now completed. There was room to accommodate all the people who went to church, assembling there week after week for a quarter of a century to listen to Thomas Fessenden and Pliny Dickinson, and hearing them preach their long-winded sermons, which often ran up to the tenthlies.

"The townsmen were taxed pro rata for the support of preaching whether they believed in the 'standing order' of creeds and beliefs or not. There were agnostics in those days, as well as now, and what could induce all the people in cold weather, some of whom had to travel four or five miles on foot or horseback and sit through two long services in that unwarmed church, is more than can be guessed at, unless to get their money's worth, for in many cases reluctant payment of taxes was creeping in. During thirty-five years that old church never was warmed, and by some church members it was considered sacrilege to warm a church. After the benediction, at noon, many of the parishioners repaired to the public-house of Alexander Watkins and seated themselves in semi-circle around a blazing fire in his capacious receiving-room. Parson Fessenden sometimes preached a *cold* sermon, and on those occasions he drifted with his parishioners to Uncle Alex's, as he was called, and then and there quaffed a generous quantity of flip with them. Then it was not considered derogatory for the cloth to take a little, just a little, for the 'stomach's sake'. Here the head of each family purchased a mug of flip, from which each member partook from the same mug, and for every mug sold Uncle Alex would add another stick of wood to the already hot fire; so by the time for afternoon service the parishioners and parson were well warmed inside and outside to meet the chill of the afternoon.

"Parson Dickinson, who after this period became the town minister, was cast in a different mould from Parson Fessenden; he considered the guzzling of cider, cider-brandy and the looking upon 'wine when it was red' as dangerous to the morals and the well-being of his charge, and used his influence to discourage their use as a common beverage. He was not a free liver himself, and it is presumed never touched even wine without being urged by his parishioners." (*History of Cheshire County*, p. 430-1.)

Mrs. Barnes in her *Narratives and Traditions* described the attendance at church of the Col. John Bellows family. Seated in the chaise would be seen Mrs. Bellows with her two daughters, elegantly dressed. The Colonel always rode a handsome, high-spirited horse that would often become restive when compelled to keep at the side of the carriage slowly creeping up Prospect Hill. He would gallop a short distance ahead, then wheel



round and return to the carriage. In this way they would progress nearly to the meeting-house at the top of the hill, when the Colonel would ride on and dismount in time to assist the ladies from the carriage. (This description was more likely of a time after 1800 when carriages had come into use.)

The Revolutionary War being ended, the constitutions of the United States and the State being adopted, and the boundary line being settled, the people began to feel more hopeful and cheerful, and perhaps it would be interesting to take a view of the appearance of the village in 1793 and perhaps somewhat earlier. It is said Col. Bellows intended the village should be located near his own house, but the settlement developed a half mile south.

“Beginning at the old Parson Fessenden house (now Justin Farr 1880, Hubbard Farms #43) and going south, the first house met with at that early period was Thomas Sparhawk’s, on the site of Mrs. Benjamin Grant’s (Von Lackum #41). About opposite, a little east of Thomas C. Sparhawk’s, Samuel Trott lived (west side Hubbard Road). . . . The next was the Mead house, so-called, which used to stand just in front of Mrs. Ephraim Holland’s (Mrs. Nancy Hubbard’s #38), and where Thomas Collins Drew lived when first married, and opposite was the first school house built in town, now (after being moved) the residence of Moses Q. Watkins (Adeline Chickering #75). The next building was a tannery, just north of the residence of Levi Foster (Richard F. O’Brien #93) belonging, it is said, at one time, to David Stevens, and afterwards to Daniel W. Bisco, whose house stood where Foster’s garden now is (1880). Opposite, about where H. A. Hitchcock’s (Mrs. Agnes Brewster #35) house now stands, was a bakery. The house where H. Allen (Mabel Cole #27) now lives is supposed to be the oldest in the village; but by whom built is not known (probably Asa Baldwin). About opposite was the old Johnson tavern, now occupied as a dwelling by F. A. Wier (Guy Bemis #91). One Caleb Johnson built it and the next building south, which was long occupied as a store, then as a hatter’s shop and for some years as a shoe manufactory, and finally by H. A. Hitchcock for furniture, etc. (gone now 1962). Opposite was a tailor’s shop where one George Cochran carried on tailoring business (gone 1962). The Wentworth House, owned by John Crafts, was in existence at that time and was called the ‘Crafts Tavern’ (gone 1962). The next building opposite and now owned by George H. Holden (Bridge Grain & Fuel #90) was, in 1793, the famous bookstore and printing office. If the amount of business done at that time holds any comparison with the catalogue of books advertised for sale in the newspaper of that date, it must have been a business of more than ordinary magnitude for a country town. The business was carried on by Isaiah Thomas and David Carlisle, Jr. They did quite an extensive business in book publishing. Here was printed and published the first American novel which was honored with republication in England. It was written by Royal Tyler of Brattleboro, Vt., and was entitled ‘The Algerine Captive, or The Life and Adventures of Dr. Updike Underhill, six years a prisoner among the Algerines’. The work was published by David Carlisle, Jr. in 1797. In 1801 a 12mo. work of 318 pages was published by Thomas & Thomas entitled ‘The Spirit of the Farmers’ Museum



and Lay Preacher's Gazette', embracing all the poetry and spicy gems and anecdotes contained in the 'Museum' during several years' publication (1797-1810). . . . The next building south was Gen. Amasa Allen's store (MacDonald #109), business being then done there under the firm name of Allen & Crafts (Royal). The building is now owned by the Blake heirs. On the site of David Buffum's (Griswold #110) brick store once stood an old two story wooden building, which for many years was occupied for a store. It was burned in 1859 and rebuilt in 1860. Further south, a few rods, the ground was occupied by a building, now the residence of Mrs. Wm. Farnam (now Jensen #83 on High St.), where Maj. Samuel Grant for many years carried on the business of a saddle and harness maker, and which afterwards was converted into a drug store and kept for many years by Deacon Thomas Seaver, till about the time it was moved away. There was probably no other house on the east side of Main Street till the foot of the hill south of the Unitarian meeting house was reached, except where Mrs. Prentiss Foster now lives (Harold S. Putnam #139) which was built and occupied by Gen. Benjamin Bellows. South of the Crafts Tavern, which was in 1793 advertised for sale by Samuel Mead of Alstead who had married the widow Crafts and was guardian of her children, stood a large building called the Great White Store, near where B. F. Aldrich's (east part of the bank) house now stands, and a little west stood a dwelling once occupied by a son of the ventriloquist, Potter. The Abel Bellows (McKenven #170) house was built by Dr. George Sparhawk, the next (Tatem #172) by Amasa Allen, the next (Mrs. Wallace Graves) which once stood where Dr. W. B. Porter's (Hastings) now is, by David Stevens. It was moved back west about 40 years ago (1840), and now is owned and occupied by Mrs. Asa Titus (Mrs. Wallace Graves #175). This house once went by the name of the 'Cochran House'. The Wm. Buffum (Spitzli #178) house was once owned by Ebenezer Crehore and it is supposed he built it; at any rate a deed shows that it was owned by him in 1786. The original shape of all those four houses was nearly the same, with 'gambrel roofs'. Col. John Bellows built the house which the Rev. H. W. Bellows now owns and occupies as a summer residence (his daughter, Mrs. Thorndike Endicott #205). Up Prospect Street there were a few scattered dwellings. The first was known as the Drew house and occupied by Thomas C. Drew (Mrs. Albert Dickey estate #149); the next was the house now occupied by the Misses Maynard (Austin Hubbard #150). It was then a one story house. The house where A. K. Maynard now lives (Mrs. Maude Maynard Slade #204) was built very early, but by whom is not known. Jonathan Livingston occupied it very early in the present century. The Caleb Bellows house, now occupied by Moses J. Hale (Holmes Whitmore #153) was built as early as 1793 by Benjamin Bellows for his son Caleb. The next house was owned and occupied many years by Pliny Dickinson, though previously occupied by Eliphalet Fox (Cutter #200). The house opposite, where Mr. Barnes now lives (Norbert Hudson #162) was once owned and occupied by Oliver Sparhawk, who for many years had charge of the singing in the old church, and was also, at one time, a merchant in town. The next house was built by Stephen Mellish early in the present century. The old house was torn down and John Selkirk has recently erected a new house on the site (Wm. Burrows #403). On the site of the house now occupied by Isaac M. Graves (Mrs. Irene Chickering #406) a house was burned some 25 years ago, which for many years was owned and occupied by James Campbell who for a long time was Register of Deeds for the county of Cheshire which then embraced Sullivan county; and the old woodshed now standing on the premises was the

Register's Office. Gamaliel Huntington resided on the east side of the road (Mrs. Hazel Cummings #405). There might have been more than the Apollos Gilmore (#411 on golf course) and Pressey houses (#409, burned 1912) standing on the road before the meeting house was reached, but those enumerated were the principal ones in 1793. Near the meeting house (on Prospect) stood two houses, one occupied by Thomas Parker and the other by Antipas Harrington (Country Club #410). A few houses may have been built west of Main Street in 1793. If any, the John Livingston house where John C. Brown now resides (Douglas & Ashmore #192), the Mead house now owned by Oliver Martin (Tilton #179) and the Stephen Rice house where Mrs. Stoddard now resides (Carola Graves, occupied by Brainard #25) were among the number. On the east side of Main Street, on the site of the academy building, stood a distillery owned and run by Col. Caleb Bellows, where a large quantity of potato whiskey was made annually. The road from the village to the meeting house at or soon after 1793 was shaded on either side by beautiful forest trees . . . but vandalism and the hand of ruthless time have swept them mostly away." (AH 75)

Beginning about 1784 post riders carried the mails and small parcels. February 12, 1791, a post was established, by federal act, from Concord through various towns to Keene, then Westmoreland, Walpole, Acworth, Charlestown, Claremont . . . back to Concord. The route was covered once a week in each direction, beginning April 1. The charge for private single letters was 6 pence for every 40 miles, 4 pence for less; other matter by weight or bulk.

"The roads were only bridle paths, most of them, although laid out; the people had no use for carriage roads, for there were no carriages. Four-wheeled pleasure-wagons were not seen in town till 25 years later. There was no postoffice in town till April 1, 1795, and Samuel Grant was appointed postmaster. Before this time letters were taken from some central point and carried by the 'post rider' to the persons directed on the letter. Newspapers had no circulation prior to 1793, there was no free library, and very few books found in farmers' houses. The almanac was in every house and relied upon implicitly as a weather prognosticator. Under the circumstances, how could people be anything but ignorant? Still, those people were happy. They had seasons of enjoyment—their election and thanksgiving days, their apple bees and kitchen junkets, their husking bees and quilting frolics, and, more than all, their burst of patriotism on the glorious Fourth." *History of Cheshire & Sullivan County* 431-433.

"On the fourth of July the small, loyal town of Walpole remembered those who gave Independence to our country. A discharge of cannon announced to the inhabitants, the morning of the twenty-fourth anniversary of their liberty was arrived, and summoned them to the duties and delights of the day. A procession, composed of soldiers and citizens, and cheered by an excellent band of music, proceeded, at eleven,



to the meetinghouse, here, after a vigorous, pious, and pertinent address to Heaven, from the Rev. Mr. Fessenden, a crowded audience was instructed and entertained, by an excellent and chaste oration, of the historical class, from the pen of John Hubbard, Esq. At intervals several favorite marches were played. An Ode, composed by certain of our own poets, was performed to the popular tune of 'Hail Columbia'. At 2 o'clock, at the hall of Maj. Bullard, a party of gentlemen were regaled with an elegant and well served repast."

"*The Farmers' Weekly Museum* enjoyed a degree of popularity then unprecedented in the case of any paper published in a country village. It was begun in April 1793 at Walpole, New Hampshire, by Isaiah Thomas and David Carlisle. Carlisle was a native of Walpole, and had served an apprenticeship with Thomas, at Worcester. . . . Thomas furnished the printing office with its types and press, and a bookstore with a handsome assortment of books, and the whole business of printing and bookselling was carried on under the firm of Thomas and Carlisle.

"Published first as the *New Hampshire Journal*, it soon gained a respectable circulation on both sides of the river and was liberally patronized in Vermont. . . . At the commencement of the second year the name was changed to *The New Hampshire and Vermont Journal*, or, *Farmers' Weekly Museum*.

"The size of the sheet was 18" x 11", the paper coarse and dingy, the type inferior and old-fashioned. At its commencement there were no elaborate original articles—snatches of news, a few deaths and marriages, some foreign intelligence, a few lottery and other ads, some practical effusions, an essay or so.

"Carlisle was then the sole editor of the paper; but he received aid from several correspondents.

"In 1795 Joseph Dennie took up his residence in Walpole, and began to write for the *Museum* that series of papers, which did more to extend his reputation than all his other literary efforts, entitled 'The Lay Preacher'. These lay sermons were republished in nearly all the newspapers in the nation. . . . It is believed that these contributions were at first voluntary and entirely gratuitous; but, in the spring of 1796, Carlisle having become, nominally, the sole proprietor of the paper, an arrangement was made with Dennie, by which the entire control of it, except the selection of news and the advertising department, was transferred to him.

". . . During this year, the Lay Preacher was pretty constant in the weekly production of his labors; and he was aided in his task as an editor, by Royal Tyler (then a lawyer in Guilford, Vt.) who furnished all those agreeable and humorous articles, purporting to be 'From the Shop of Messrs. Colon & Spondee'. Thomas Green Fessenden was the author of sundry pieces of humorous political doggerel. The motto of the *Museum* was,—'Ho, every one, that thirsteth for novelty—come!' At the beginning of the fifth volume, April, 1797, the titles of the paper were transposed. . . .

"As a literary periodical, the *Museum* had now no rival. Its circulation extended from Maine to Georgia, and large packages filled weekly an extra mail-bag, to supply the subscribers in New York, Philadelphia, Charleston, and intervening cities.

"For three years succeeding this arrangement, the *Museum* was more richly supplied with original communications of a literary character than any other paper, that had then, or has since, been published in the United States. 'Colon & Spondee' came out almost every week, with new varieties of their small wares; T. G. Fessenden produced his political lampoons, under the signature of 'Simon Spunkey'; Isaac Story opened



a shop with the sign of Peter Pindar in his humorous style of versification; 'Common Sense in Dishabille' was furnished by David Everett; and besides these, 'The Meddler', 'The Hermit', 'The Rural Wanderer', 'Peter Pencil', 'Eeri Besdin', and numerous other writers, whose contributions I am not able to assign to the authors by name, enriched the *Museum*, and gave it an unprecedented popularity. Dennie, however, was not merely the responsible editor, but was the enlivening spirit, around which the others congregated. . . . The selected articles were of his choosing. The weekly summary of 'Incidents Abroad' and 'Incidents at Home', which was not the least attractive feature of the *Museum*, was prepared by him; and though this feature of the *Museum* has had many imitators, I know of none which can claim any near relationship or striking resemblance. The notes 'To Readers and Correspondents' make, of themselves, an amusing department. These were also the sole composition of Dennie, and were frequently written in the printing office, and extended or contracted in length, so as precisely to fit the space, in which the last column of the form might be deficient in matter.

"In less than a year from the time when the *Museum* put on this new and promising aspect, Carlisle became involved in embarrassments, and the property fell back into the possession of Thomas."

Apparently the paying patronage of the paper was not equal to the desires of the editor who wrote ". . . a paper so cheap, so closely printed, and so free from advertisements must, to support its present reputation, attract not only copious subscriptions, but punctual payment. . . . Like every other industrious workman, he (the editor) has a right to bread, and sometimes, to write 'all cheerily', he ought to have wine. The incumbrance of excessive wealth is scarcely to be dreaded by an author, but for the decent recompense of literary labor he has an importunate claim. . . ."

"Alexander Thomas, a relative of Isaiah Thomas, had been taken into the partnership in the Bookstore connected with the Printing-Office, and about the first of June, 1798, took upon himself the full charge of conducting the paper, while Dennie took a recess from his labors. From that time on Dennie's efforts were sporadic. . . ."

"The essays of the Lay Preacher were continued, with tolerable though not constant punctuality till the beginning of September (1799), when they were again suspended, and never again revived, as contributions to the MUSEUM. Dennie was invited to Philadelphia, to a different employment, and the editorial management of the paper was given to Alexander Thomas. . . . In consequence of the departure of Dennie and the entire suspension of his labors, the title 'Lay Preacher's Gazette' (which had been added in April) was expunged and that of 'Literary Gazette' took its place. This was in February 1800. The weekly summaries, which had frequently filled two or three columns, dwindled down to less than half a column and had none of the raciness and agreeable humor that had frequently made them attractive."

"In October 1801 Thomas and Thomas made a temporary disposal of the establishment to David Newhall. The dimensions of the paper were reduced, and the spirit evaporated. In 1803 the publication was resumed by Thomas and Thomas. The next

year the paper was again enlarged and the second title dropped. . . . From this time to October 1806 the MUSEUM was respectably conducted, but had no remarkable excellence. . . . In March 1807 the publication was suspended . . . with a recommendation of the NEW HAMPSHIRE SENTINEL published at Keene by John Prentiss . . . to the favor of their subscribers . . . it was revived in October 1808 and published by Thomas and Thomas and Cheever Felch. In July 1809 the names of Thomas and Thomas disappeared from the imprint, and that of Cheever Felch remained as the sole publisher and editor . . . notwithstanding flattering assurances the FARMER'S MUSEUM rapidly approached its end. In October 1810 the publication was suspended. Felch remained sometime in Walpole in the business of bookselling. (From *Specimens of New Hampshire Literature* by Joseph Buckingham 1852.)

"I have a vivid recollection of Joseph Dennie's personal appearance in 1796 when I began my apprenticeship in the printing office of David Carlisle. In person, he was rather below than above the middling height, and was of a slender frame. He was particularly attentive to his dress, which, when he appeared in the street, on a pleasant day, approached the highest notch of the fashion. I remember, one delightful morning in May, he came into the office, dressed in a pea-green coat, white vest, nan-kin small-clothes, white silk stockings, and shoes, or pumps, fastened with silver buckles, which covered at least half the foot from the instep to the toe. His small-clothes were tied at the knees, with riband of the same color, in double bows, the ends reaching down to the ankles. He had just emerged from the barber's shop. His hair in front was well loaded with pomatum, frizzled, or craped, and powdered; the earlocks had undergone the same process; behind, his natural hair was augmented by the addition of a large queue . . . which, enrolled in some yards of black riband, reached half way down his back. . . .

"Dennie wrote with great rapidity, and generally postponed his task till he was called upon for copy. It was frequently necessary to go to his office, and it was not uncommon to find him in bed at a late hour in the morning. His copy was often given out in small portions, a paragraph or two at a time; sometimes it was written in the printing office, while the compositor was waiting to put it in type. One of his best Lay Sermons was written at the village tavern, directly opposite to the office, in a chamber where he and his friends were amusing themselves with cards. It was delivered to me by piece-meal, at four or five different times. If he happened to be engaged in a game, when I applied for copy, he would ask someone to play his hand for him, while he could give the devil his due.\* When I called for the closing paragraph of the sermon, he said, call again in five minutes. 'No,'—said Tyler—'I'll write the improvement for you.' He accordingly wrote a concluding paragraph, and Dennie never saw it until it was in print.

"Joseph Dennie was admitted to the bar in Cheshire County. He did not follow the profession and there is a report of his having appeared in court only once as an advocate. The account of this first and last attempt to address a court was reported with considerable embellishment by his friend Tyler, for the New England Galaxy July 24, 1818. (See *Specimens of Newspaper Literature* by Joseph T. Buckingham, Vol. II, p. 199, State Historical Society.)

"Dennie's most intimate friend and associate in his literary enterprises was Royal Tyler, a native of Boston, graduate of Harvard College in 1776, a law student. . . . His contributions to the FARMER'S MUSEUM would, if collected, fill several volumes.



He wrote rapidly, and could vary his style 'from grave to gay, from lively to severe', as easily as he could draw on his glove. Most of the articles purporting to be 'from the Shop of Messrs. Colon & Spondee' were written by him; the poetical pieces are said to have all come from his pen." (*Joseph Buckingham.*)

Isaac Story, the writer of the articles *From the Shop of Peter Quince* graduated at Harvard College in 1793. Most of his contributions were imitations of the odes of Peter Pindar, alluding to incidents which have little interest now.

Thomas G. Fessenden, son of Parson Fessenden of Walpole, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1796. While in college he had gained some notoriety by writing poetical trifles, particularly a Yankee ballad called *Jonathan's Courtship*. While at college he defrayed his expenses by instructing a village school and by teaching psalmody several evenings a week. He later studied law at Rutland, Vermont.

The most important of his contributions to the *Museum* were signed Simon Spunkey. He spent most of his life as an editor of various publications, particularly the *New England Farmer* published in Boston. (See also *Connecticut River and Valley of Connecticut*, p. 388-9.)

Joseph Buckingham was well qualified to write concerning the *Museum*, having had a personal connection with the publication, as described in his *Personal Memoirs* published in Boston 1852:

"In December . . . through the agency of my brother . . . a place was provided in the office of David Carlisle, at Walpole, N. H., and there I was initiated in the mystery of type-setting. My apprenticeship began on the 5th of March, 1796, and owing to a difficulty in accommodating myself, with the 'steady Habits' in which I had been educated in Connecticut, to the less economical propensities of some of the other and older apprentices, my service there was closed about the beginning of the September following. During these six months I never spent a happy day. Two hours had not elapsed after my entrance into the office, before I was called upon 'to treat'. I resisted the call for several days, but was at length overcome by the daily and almost hourly annoyance, and more than half of the small amount of money I possessed was expended for brandy, wine, sugar, eggs, crackers, cheese, etc., etc. Till then my lips had never been in contact with either of those liquors. Now, I was literally compelled to swallow them, distasteful and nauseous though they were. I say COMPELLED, for what boy of sixteen could stand up against the sneers and ribaldry of eight or ten older ones, who laughed at his scruples and reproached him for his lack of honor and manhood in having never been drunk. After having 'treated', as I was the youngest apprentice, I was not called upon for change to buy the wine and eggs, which were taken by my seniors three or four mornings a week; but it was my lot to go to the store for these articles, and to be on the watch, to see if they were not likely to be disturbed by the appearance of Carlisle. How it happened that I did not acquire an appetite for intoxicating liquors, during this period, I cannot tell; for the most irresistible argument to overturn the resolution of a young mind, namely ridicule,

was constantly applied. Whether I should have come off victorious if I had continued longer in the place, is more than I would undertake now to assert."

About this time Maj. Asa Bullard came to Walpole and for some years thereafter kept the once famous Crafts Tavern. His house was the resort of a coterie of wags, wits and literati from all the surrounding country among whom were those men already mentioned as contributors to the *Museum*. Also in this group was Jeremiah Mason who afterwards became a distinguished lawyer in Boston. He had come up from Connecticut to read law with Att. Stephen Rowe Bradley in Westminster. He wrote in his autobiography: "There was little or no good society in the place (Westminster), nor was it much better at Walpole, the village on the opposite bank of the river." This was not long prior to 1791. Soon after that time he settled in practice in Westmoreland.

"But I became tired with the solitariness of my situation, and, late fall of the year 1794, I removed to Walpole, six miles higher up the river. This was a brisk, active village, with several traders, and many industrious mechanics, and two or three taverns, in one of which I took lodging for a short time, when I engaged a clever house, and small family to keep it, in which I lodged and kept my office. Walpole was, at that time, a place of more business than any in that vicinity, and was much resorted to by the people of the neighboring towns. There was also a considerable travel from a distance, passing on what was called the great river road, so that my situation here seemed quite a contrast to my former solitude. The inhabitants of that part of the Valley of the Connecticut river were then just passing from the rude and boisterous manners of first settlers to a more civilized, orderly, and composed state. There was more motion, life and bustle than in the older parts of the country.

"A set of young men, mostly of the legal profession, extending from Greenfield in Massachusetts to Windsor in Vermont, a distance of fifty or sixty miles, were much in the habit of familiar intercourse for the sake of amusement and recreation. They occasionally met at village taverns, but more commonly at the sessions of the courts and freely indulged in gambling, excessive drinking, and such like dissipation. The most of them were gentlemanly in manners, and some talented. I rejoice that I am able to say with truth that I did not belong to them, and never associated with them in their dissipation; my poor friend, Col. Alpheus Moore, who had been a leader among them and was already ruined, served me as a warning beacon,—added to this was the friendly advice of Mr. West (from Charlestown), for whom I early entertained the most reverential esteem and respect. . . .

"Soon after I removed to Walpole, Joseph Dennie, who had studied law in Mr. West's office, and had just been admitted to the courts, came to reside in that village under the pretense of practicing law. His legal knowledge consisted wholly in a choice selection of quaint, obsolete, and queer phrases from 'Plowden's Commentaries', the only law book he had ever read with any attention, and this was read for the sole purpose of treasuring up in his memory these quaint phrases. These he often repeated in ridicule of the law, to the great amusement of his auditors. He was the most aerial, refined, and highly sublimated spirit it has ever been my hap to meet



with. He was graduated at Cambridge University, and was of the class of 1790, and, against his own inclination, by the urgent advice of his friends, he undertook to study law. With a good share of native genius, he had a delicate and accurate taste, much cultivated by an ardent study of the English classics, with which he was thoroughly imbued. His language in common conversation, without any appearance of stiffness or pedantry, was always pure and classical. He early determined on the life of an author, and he deemed it necessary to avoid the use of low or vulgar language in conversation, in order to be secure against it in writing. His powers of conversation were of the highest order. He had a slender and feeble frame and was often depressed by bad health; but when in good health and spirits, I think I have never known a more eloquent and delightful talker.

"The old tavern, in those days at those gatherings was turned into a literary pandemonium; wine drinking, late suppers, card playing, joke cracking and the like formed the programme for frequent meetings during the year; and the wee hours of the morning were the only acknowledged signal for breaking up. The good cheer of Maj. Bullard's house was known far and wide, and all travellers wanting a good time made it a point to stop at the Major's. Those wags were not content with cracking jokes on one another; but their shafts of ridicule extended to Parson Fessenden, who was a diminutive man, and wore a cocked hat and small clothes, which made him resemble the 'Jack of Clubs' and in consequence they dubbed him 'Old Palm', as the 'Jack of Clubs' played an important part in their favorite game of 'Palm Loo'.

"In those days there was another set of men living in town who used to, on all public days, congregate at the Major's house and drink something stronger than wine, and for amusement roll ten pins. They prided themselves on their courage, bravado, and strength; and after drinking till their courage was wrought up 'to the sticking point', if any of the parties had any old unsettled 'score', this was the time for settling it by a free fight, when, in some instances, all parties became involved. On some of those occasions one Abraham Hall, whose avoirdupois was four hundred and twenty pounds at the age of sixty, sometimes put in an appearance as peace-maker, by taking the belligerents by the nape of the neck and holding them asunder till their pugnacity cooled off. He is said to have been the most powerful man, physically, that ever lived in town." (AH)

The following items are from the *Museum*:

"1793-4—Cash and a generous price given for Human Hair at shop of John Andenoy on Main Street.

—John Bellows 2nd giving cash and a generous price for any kind of hatting furs, also hats exchanged for lambs wool.

—William Pierce wants apprentice to shoemaking business.

1793—Joshua Quinton advertised James Titus a went-away apprentice who answered that he never bound himself for any specific time and was free to leave the clothier business.

—Abner Graves, post rider, always with him an assortment of best kind of indigo, small books and every little article usually inquired for.

—Justus Webber from Boston, tailor at Col. Allen's store.

—Gurdon Huntington clock & watch making business, buys old copper and brass.

—Wm. Wire agent for Walter M'Coye drums.

1797—Caleb Johnson had for sale at a very low rate for cash a few barrels of West India and New England Rum.

—Josiah Gates operating a ferry.

—Nicanor Townsley carried on cabinet making business in Walpole Village about 20 rods west from Gen. Bellows.

—Wm. Ramsay carrying on wheel making business.

—Ebenezer Crehore's apprentice Ora Rugg, 18, ran away, reward 6 pence.

Dec. 1797—Stephen Prentiss, Jun . . . has this day taken a shop on the Main Street in Walpole and is carrying on the chair making and painting business. . . . Cash or almost any kind of produce received in payment.

—Petitions for divorce.

1798—Gamaliel Fenton now carrying on the Bell Foundry . . . where Bells of any weight may be had . . . Town Clocks also manufactured.

—Mr. Blackmer opening school of dancing September 1798.

—Zacheus Hale Loomis, musician (Brattleborough) wishes to engage at all assemblies and balls from Deerfield to Walpole or within 20 miles east and west. Gentlemen are requested to apply seasonably.

—Bellows & Stone wish to purchase Green Ginseng.

—Mr. Hubbard opening his subscription school in May (1798) Gentlemen and ladies Tuition 1 shilling & 6 pence per week.

—Moses Johnson has new lot of goods for sale. No credit extended. Good hard, sweet butter will be received at 10 pence per pound. Those who prefer cash to goods shall receive 9 pence per pound for their butter. NB No butter will be received but of the best kind, the milk well worked out and the butter perfectly sweet, hard and in good order.

—Moses Johnson Fresh lemons 10 pence in cash.

—Alexander Watkins 100 bu. good wheat for sale, brought from over the mountain where you all know they raise the best of wheat.

—Wanted to hire 10 or 12 workmen well acquainted with gunsmith business Gurdon Huntington, John Livingston, Jun. Same by Amasa Allen, Samuel Grant, Joseph Barnard.

—Bellows & Stone Those persons who wish to make a payment in Beef Cattle are desired to bring them the first and second weeks in October, as we shall attend to killing and barrelling beef at that time.

John Hubbard, apothecary and writer, was a graduate of Dartmouth College in 1785. After teaching at New Ipswich Academy, he came to Walpole in 1796 where he continued teaching for a time. In 1798 he was appointed Cheshire County Judge of Probate, in 1799 Walpole postmaster. As an apothecary he developed a vegetable pill for female complaints, advertising its potency in the *Museum*—the best remedy yet known in consumptive complaints, “fainting, indigestion, and hypochondriac affections, vapours, or lowness of spirit, are carried off by the use of a single box”.



## DECADE 1800-1810

During the 1780's the family of Theodore Atkinson had their tract of Derry Hill surveyed and during the 1790's sold a 100 acre tract to Scotch-Irish settlers from Londonderry, N. H. They were of frugal and industrious habits.

When those farms were first settled, they were very productive, yielding immense quantities of hay, grain and potatoes. Whether the first potatoes raised in town were raised on Derry Hill is uncertain; but the first raised in New England came from the seed brought from Ireland to Londonderry by the immigrants to that place.

## TURNPIKES

The following editorial appeared in the *Museum* August 26, 1799: "At the last session of our General Court several Petitions were presented for license to establish Turnpike roads. . . . Should these petitions be granted, the effect will be, that roads will be laid out in the best possible places, and those who suffer private injury for public good will have their damages equitably appraised and paid. Gates will be erected at convenient distances at which toll will be collected; the inhabitants of each town through which a road passes will be privileged to pass gratis, except when on journeys or going out of town. All foot passengers will be exempted from paying toll. Thus we find that each town through which a Turnpike passes will not only be benefited with an excellent highway, but likewise considerably relieved in the town taxes. The principal objection that has been stated is that it will be highly injurious, in a *free* country, to tax travelling, in a public road, and that it savors too much of the oppression of old countries. This objection must originate in total ignorance. Who would object to paying the toll of a good bridge rather than to cross a ferry; and who will object to paying the small toll of a Turnpike, when it will expedite his journey to that degree, that it will be more than saved in his tavern expenses? Add to this the saving of time, the safety and convenience attending a journey, and we presume there will not a reasonable objection arise. Wheel carriages will be mostly benefited by these roads. The waggoner may add one-fourth to his load, perform his journey in three-fourths the time, and he will find by experience that his team will last twice as long. Wherever a road is established the distance will be much abridged from the present route, hills will be avoided, and the roads will be made literally as smooth as a house floor. Let any man figure to himself the advantages, and say whether he would not give his vote for such a road, rather than endure the rocks, the gulphs, the hills and quagmires, which at present embarrass our highways; those who have travelled in Turnpikes are uniformly in favor of them, and say they wish every highway was the same."

## THIRD N. H. TURNPIKE

December 27, 1799, a charter was granted to Frederick Wm. Geyer, Benjamin Bellows, Benjamin West, Amasa Allen, John Bellows, Daniel Newcomb, Peleg Sprague, Josiah Richardson and associates to lay out,





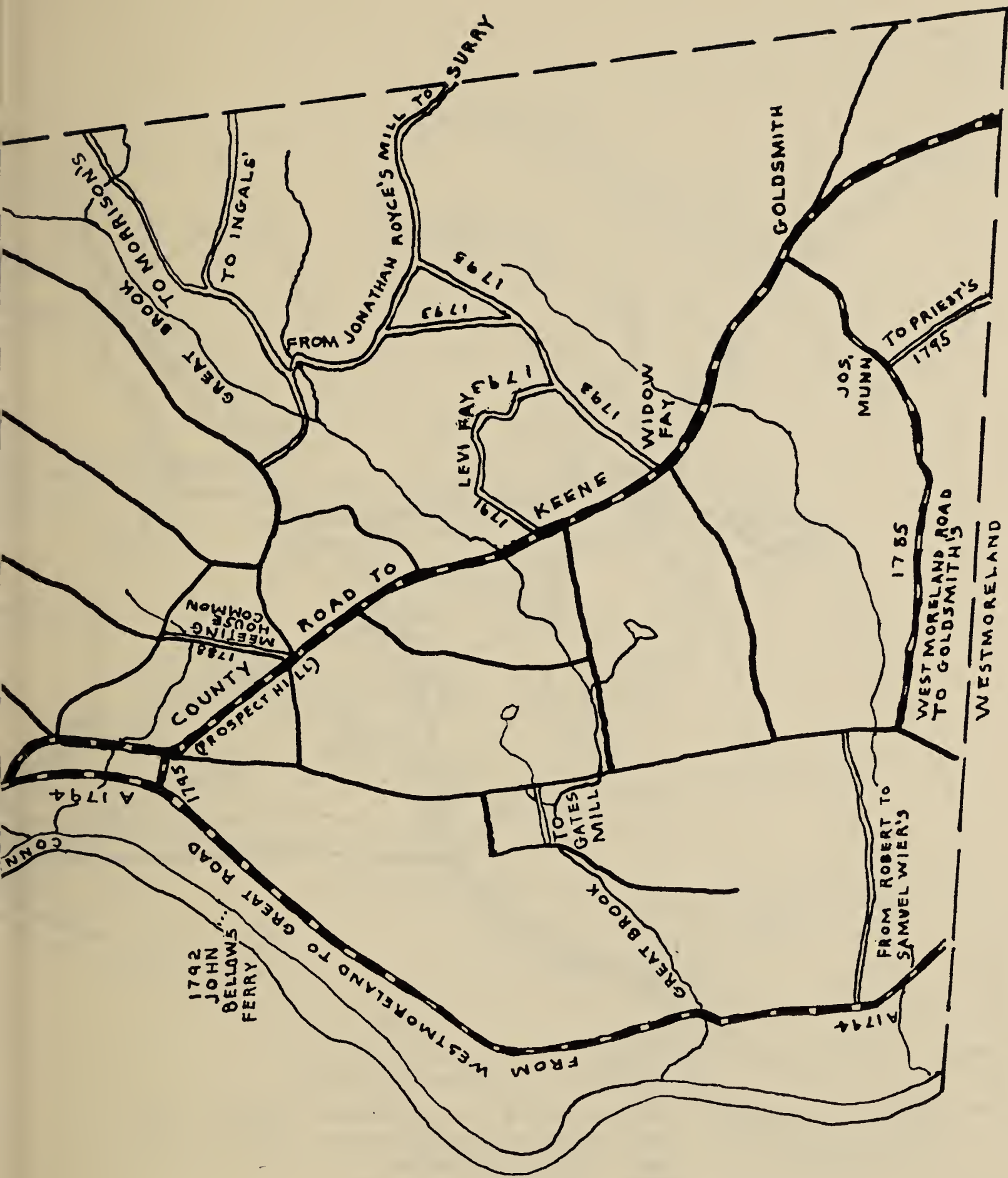




- 1796
- LAID AS STATE ROAD
  - LAID AS COUNTY ROAD
  - SURVEYED AND RECORDED THROUGH 1781
  - SURVEYED AND RECORDED 1781-1796

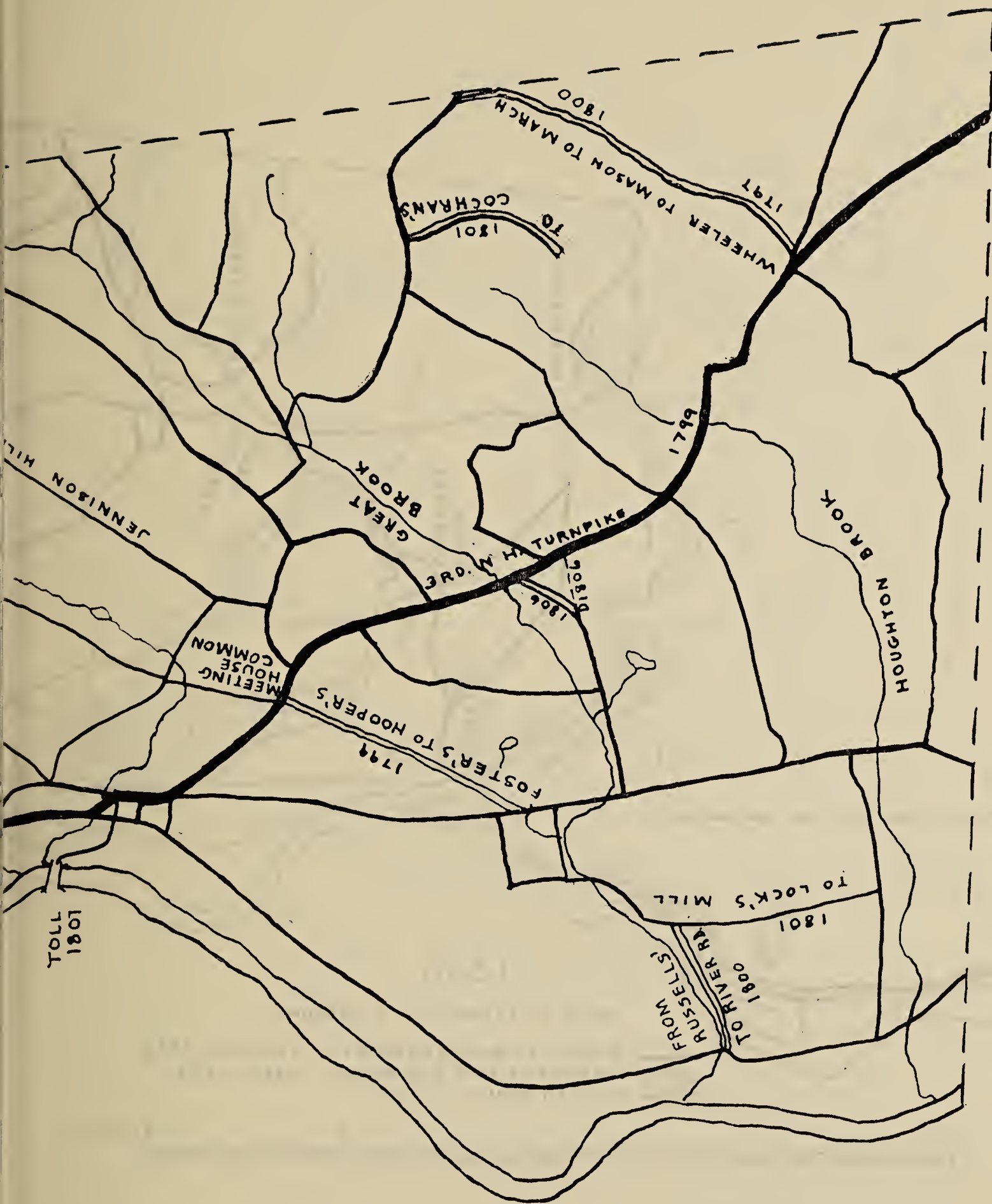
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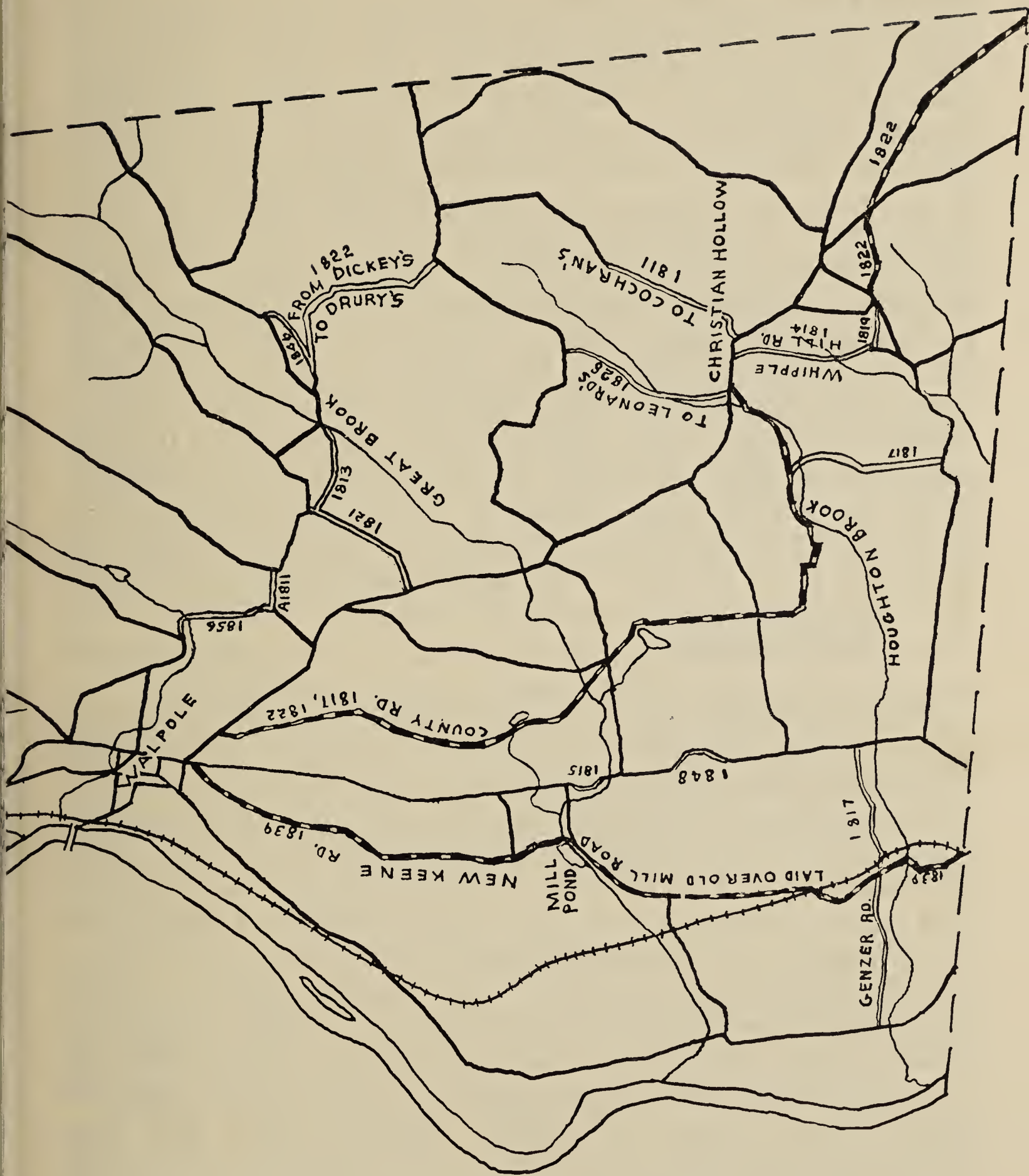












make, and keep in repair a Turnpike road of 4 rods wide in such route or track as in their best judgment and skill, shall combine shortness of distance with the most practicable ground, from Bellows falls in Walpole, on Connecticut river through Keene toward Boston to Massachusetts line. There were to be as many gates as needed to collect toll, but none was to be placed on roads now public. (There was one in the fork of the County and Watkins Hill roads in Christian Hollow, no record of any other in Walpole.) The gates were to be left open when not attended, and no toll was to be collected from those going to worship or to mill. For avoidance of paying toll treble could be collected. Rates per mile were as follows: 15 sheep or hogs, 1¢; 15 cattle or horses, 2¢; horse and rider or led horse,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; sulkey chair, 1 horse chaise, 2 wheeled,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; chariot, coach, stage wagon, phaeton or chaise with 2 horses, 4 wheels, 4¢; carriage (1 beast) 1 (2 beast),  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 1¢ additional for each pair oxen or horses; sleigh 1 horse,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 2 horse,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢;  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for each additional horse; sled 1 horse,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 2 horse, 1¢; 1¢ for each additional pair. No toll was to be collected until \$600 per mile had been expended. An accounting was to be made at the end of each ten years, the charter null and void if the road had not been completed within the first ten years. After 40 years the state had the privilege of buying the road for the amount expended plus 12% per annum, minus the tolls collected.

There is no record to show the exact original course of the road, but we have evidence to indicate the following: Starting at the toll bridge (Vilas Bridge), the road crossed Cold River about one third of the distance west from the arch bridge to the new bridge (1958); followed present course of Rt. 12 into village via Turnpike Street; through the village, up Prospect; beyond the Country Club bore to the left; came out again near Lawrence Britton's (#413); followed present road to Christian Hollow (not sure of course through Hollow); followed the Whipple Hill Road a short distance, then bore left to come out just above Mrs. Harry Jennison's (changed 1811 to present course up the hill from the Hollow); crossed through the pasture to the old Goldsmith Tavern (later Carpenter); continued down past the cemetery to present Keene Road near Conley's (#357); crossed to Patnodes' buildings (#359); then down through the woods almost a direct line to the Westmoreland line, farther east than what is left of the present road. It connected with the Green Mt. Turnpike at Bellows Falls and a Massachusetts Turnpike at Townsend, Massachusetts.

At Cold River the old road had come down from the plain and crossed the river about as it does now. There was a bridge there early, but they



seem to have had trouble keeping it. In 1789 there was a vote to repair it. In January 1794 an emergency seems to have arisen and a special town meeting was called at which it was voted to build a new bridge. Manoa Drury bid it off for 103 pounds. The builder was to build it at his own hazard and maintain for twelve years, when it would belong to the town. It was to be 18 ft. wide, completed by June 20. He did better than that, having it completed by May 2.

It appears that in 1806 the bridge had again gone out, or at least been damaged, for at the meeting in March the town voted to petition the court for a committee to alter the county road from Samuel Wightman's to Jonathan Royce's so as to pass the Turnpike bridge and avoid building Cold River bridge, to contract with the directors of the Turnpike Corporation to pass over their bridge below Samuel Wightman's free of expense to public travel provided county court should see fit to alter county road. The selectmen were to contact Mr. Wightman for opening a road across his meadow from the Turnpike bridge to the foot of the hill west of Israel Wightman's till a decision by the court. The town allowed Mr. Drury to give his right to the bridge to the town rather than requiring him to repair it. (12 years not quite up.)

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#### CHESHIRE TURNPIKE

In 1804 a charter was granted for the Cheshire Turnpike from Charlestown to Keene, with much the same terms as the Third New Hampshire Turnpike. It entered Walpole at Drewsville, passed down through that village, through the Valley much as the present road, joining the 3rd N. H. Turnpike at Keene. From Woods' (#576) to the old Whitney place (#579) at the end of Maple Grove Road it followed a straight course over the hill west of the present road.

The building of these Turnpikes opened the staging and teaming era, and gave impetus to the development of the country. Produce was taken to market on these roads, such travel bringing a great deal of business to the keepers of public houses along the way. After snow fell it was not unusual to see 20 to 40 sleds or sleighs passing over the pike in a day.

In 1806 the old brick store was built where the Bemis store (#168) is now (1962). At first there was a road from there westerly along the south line of the old Crafts lot, but later the present Westminster Street was laid from the same point "a little north of the cistern being the southeast corner of the Crafts Tavern lot, thence to the county road leading down the river" (now Washington Square west). In 1808 it was extended to the river to accommodate the bridge which was soon to be built.

The bridge was chartered June 17, 1807 "anywhere between south line of Hale's grant at Bellows Falls and Walpole-Westmoreland line", and the year following was built across the Connecticut on the site of the present bridge. It is said to have been the third on the Connecticut. It was built by a corporation and the superstructure was on wooden piers. "At its completion the citizens had a great jollification on the land just west of the bridge, playing ball, wrestling and drinking blackstrap. Before commencing their games a substantial crop of mullen had to be cleared away, the land at that time bearing nothing better, and being considered of little value." (AH 92-3)

"From 1798 till 1802 or 3 the small pox raged in town, the extent of its ravages being throughout New England. Several times during those years an article was inserted in the town warrant to see if the town would build a pest house, but the town invariably voted the proposition down. The inhabitants were also reluctant in giving permission to have their families vaccinated. Thomas Jefferson and some of the leading men at Washington tried vaccination in their own families, which proved efficacious, after which a general circular was issued to the people of the United States, setting forth its harmless effect on the patient and its potent effect in preventing the spread of the dread disease. The physicians and some of the leading men of Keene also issued a similar circular, after which the inhabitants of Walpole, less fearful, allowed their families to be vaccinated and in a short time the small pox found no food to live upon.

"In 1803 a new newspaper, called the *Political Observatory* and printed by David Newhall, was published here. The proprietors were Thomas C. Drew, Elijah Burroughs, Amasa Allen, Alexander Watkins and Jonathan Royce. Its first editor was Stanly Griswold, grandfather of our townsman H. W. S. Griswold. The paper was very ably conducted, supporting the Administration of Thomas Jefferson, while the *Museum*, at this time, advocated the principles of the Federal party which had held political sway in town from the time of the adoption of the United States Constitution. Thomas C. Drew, Elijah Burroughs, Amasa Allen, Alexander Watkins and Jonathan Royce cast, it is said, the first votes in town in opposition to the Federal party.

"In the number of the *Political Observatory* of the 20th of October, 1804, is published an account of a heavy fall of snow, which covered the fall crops to the depth of three feet. Orchards were nearly ruined, one man estimating his individual loss at \$300. The same year, Amasa and Oliver Allen's store was robbed of goods to the amount \$600, for the thieves of which they offered a reward of \$500." (AH)

"After the State Constitution was adopted in 1792, companies, regiments and battalions were formed throughout the state, and Walpole furnished her share of men to constitute the 20th regiment. So far as is known an artillery company was the only uniformed one, except a portion of a mounted company called the Cavalry, up to 1826. (Two companies of cavalry were constituted in 1803, 40 rank and file each, from Walpole and Westmoreland.) The uniforms of the artillery were a blue coat and pantaloons trimmed with red, and upon the head a bell shaped cap with



a black plume tipped with red. The ordnance was a six pound brass cannon, and each soldier wore a short sword strapped to his side. A portion of this company (drafted men) went to Portsmouth in 1814, under the command of Josiah Bellows 3rd.

“The uniforms of the cavalry company were red coats trimmed with black, buff breeches with high legged boots and a hard, bell shaped leather cap, bearing a red plume tipped with white. Strapped upon the horse’s back was a holster for a brace of pistols, a canteen and knapsack, while the soldiers wore a cutlass or broad-sword strapped to the loins. The music for the company consisted of clarinet, fife and bugle, without keys, played by Charles Chaffin. This company disbanded sometime between 1826 and 1830.” (*AH* 150-1)

In 1805 the First New Hampshire Company of Riflemen was empowered to meet at Walpole and organize, subject to the state commander-in-chief the same as the militia. No one subject to do military duty was allowed to join. The company included John Bellows, Thomas Drew, Nicanor Townsley, Samuel Grant, Isaac Redington, William Pierce, Francis Gardner, Josiah Bellows, Daniel Carlisle, Jonas Fairbanks, Almerin Parker, Elisha White, Levi Hubbard, Stephen Ormsby, Aaron Graves Jr., Samuel Morrison, Ephraim Stearns and others.

“About 1826 a new company was formed consisting of about forty men besides the officers, and called the Walpole Rifle Co. Jonathan Cutler was the first captain of this company, David Buffum 2nd, Charles Redington 3rd, etc. Cutler made the rifles in a shop that stood on the site of Col. Buffum’s store (Central Garage #11), and was a moving spirit in organizing the company. This company was uniformed in grey throughout, trimmed with velvet, with a black wool tuft on the shoulder of the coat. The ‘pants’ were faced with black velvet extending about eight or ten inches upward from the bottom. Their caps were similar in shape to those above described except that the plume was black. This company made a very fine appearance when on duty and occupied on muster days the extreme left wing of the regiment, while the artillery occupied the extreme right. This company was in existence about fifteen or more years, when it was disbanded, owing to the growing disfavor for military organizations.” (*AH* 151)

One night previous to July 4, 1808 a party from Keene stole from its position on Main Street the old cannon given to the early settlers by the King of England and used at Col. Bellows’ fort. The whole population became aroused and the delinquents were arrested and brought to trial at the court in Keene. “The court decided that the cannon was not the

property of the town of Walpole and the defendants were discharged. Thereupon, the cannon was immediately loaded to the muzzle and drawn in front of the Court house and discharged."

The Walpole people determined to retrieve the cannon regardless of the court decision. Knowing that the cannon was hidden in a granary, they hired a stage driver to go to Keene with a heavy wagon after a load of grain. On the pretext that he wished to get an early start in the morning he persuaded the clerk to loan him the key to the granary. He met a cavalcade of some 30 horsemen from Walpole. Leaving their horses in a fringe of bushes on a crossroad between Court and Washington Streets, they moved stealthily to the granary.

In moving the cannon they made noise enough to awaken the neighbors. The town bell was rung and an alarm of fire was raised, but the Walpole men were able to load the cannon, put the whip to the horses and head for Walpole. A party of Keene citizens mounted their horses and gave chase, but fortunately took a wrong road and there was no battle.

At break of day the old ordnance spoke in Walpole, amid the cheering of a hilarious crowd. (July 4, 1809)

Sometime later the people of Westminster clandestinely appropriated it for their own celebration, whereupon 80 Walpole men, led by the selectmen, went to Westminster after the cannon. Leaving the travelled road they cautiously approached the village, hidden by a high board fence on the east side of the road. The Vermonters were busily engaged in loading and firing and at every report would shout: "Do you hear that, Walpolians?" After the Walpole men had heard the question put three or four times they simultaneously put their shoulders against the fence and pushed it over, shouting: "Yes, we do hear." Without parley they brought the cannon away in triumph.

It was later stolen by men from Alstead. They loaded it too heavily, with green grass for wadding, and it spoke for the last time. (See account in *AH* 90-92.)

#### DECADE 1810-1820

"At this time, and for two or three years previous, the New England States had witnessed the rise and spread of a singular disease, which was called the 'spotted fever', but afterwards took the name of 'malignant fever'. This town was not exempt from its ravages and many homes were made desolate. The first indication of an attack was not infrequently a sudden pain in the extremities, quickly spreading over the whole system, and



often terminating fatally in less than twenty-four hours. The disease was not thought to be contagious. In the spring of 1812 several children died of it. The following March, 1813, seven persons died of the disease, in as many days. The number that died of this disease in town cannot be definitely ascertained but it was large. The disease then called spotted fever is supposed to be the same as that now known as cerebrospinal meningitis.

“In 1812 war was declared by this Government against England, which lasted about two years, . . . A company went from this town to Portsmouth in the fall of 1814, consisting of the following persons, viz: Josiah Bellows, 3d, Captain; Nathaniel Chapin, Clerk; Stephen Tiffany, Corporal; and James Elisha Angier, Ephraim Holland, Ziba Lovell, Israel Brown, John Griggs, David Perkins, Samuel Ruggles, Abel Page, Ransom Lawrence, Willard Johnson, Nathan Conant, Benj. Miller, Gordon Beckwith, Thomas Nichols Jr., William Wellington, Ebenezer Watkins, Frederick Scoville, Alfred Priest, James Sturtevant, John Bundy, John Marshall, Edmund P. Davis, Samuel A. Wightman and John Graves, servant. Those belonging to Capt. Warner’s Company were Aaron Baker, Sergt.; Wm. Lyman, 2d Lieut. The privates were Elijah Cooper, Prentiss Foster, Samuel Grant, Charles Kingsbury, Levi Leonard, Samuel Nichols, Luther Ripley, Charles Titus, George Way, and Amasa Wheeler. This company was in service but a short time, and the trophies brought home and the laurels won were very few.

“About this time, or a short time before, Josiah Bellows, David Stone and Josiah Bellows 3d purchased the Boggy Meadows—a thousand acres—on speculation, and employed Thomas Cunningham and others to cut off the timber, which found a market in Hartford, and sowed a large part of the land to winter rye, in the fall of 1815, which probably was the largest field of grain ever seen in town, and the sowing that year proved a fortunate circumstance, as the next year, 1816, was the coldest season ever experienced in this vicinity, and, in consequence, the corn crop was a perfect failure. 1816 is well remembered by the old citizens as the cold season or ‘poverty year’. The mean mercurial temperature was about 43°. Snow fell in June, and August was the only month exempt from frosts. The early frosts of September cut off the unripe corn, which some persons vainly tried to save by early husking and spreading. There was a heavy crop of English grain, otherwise the inhabitants would have suffered a partial famine.” (*AH*)

Thomas Collins Drew in 1810 bought the greater part of what is now Drewsville and erected the brick hotel which stood for many years on

the northwest side of the Common. "The volume of water then in Cold River was three times what it was in later years, and was soon utilized in driving machinery in cotton and woolen factories and for many other needful purposes. Artisans flocked into the place and stores sprang into being, which altogether, till 1835, made Drewsville a lively place. This was the heyday of Drewsville and it is said the place did more business at that time than was done in Walpole Village. . . ." (*History of Cheshire County*, p. 436-7)

The following was taken from the *Vermont Intelligencer* and *Bellows Falls Advertiser*: Jan. 12, 1818: Southworth and Tiffany have store lately occupied by Stone and Bellows; Elegant Sable Muffs and Tippetts, Ladies London Beaver Bonnets with plumes and trim'd in the latest fashion, together with good assortment of English and West India Goods. N.B. Cash and highest price paid for all kinds of Shipping Furs.

Mar. 9: Ad: Amasa Allen Shop in Walpole Village, good stand for wheelwright or any other mechanic who works in wood. Now occupied by David Bliss who makes large and small Waggon, Sleighs, and repairs Carriages, etc. Possession will be given April 5.

Mar. 16: Mansion House Hotel now occupied by Mr. Thaddeus Nichols at Bellows Falls in Walpole, for lease after April 1. Fred W. Geyer, Boston.

—For sale or lease in Drewsville by John T. Wilcox. Large well finished store and two story dwelling house, barn, sheds, etc., 5 acres land, on Cheshire Turnpike.

—Putnam and Marvin have erected a new carding machine in the Walpole Cotton Factory (Drewsville), custom work for cash and produce.

Nov. 9: Lincoln, Tailor, from Boston commencing Tailoring business in Walpole Village in shop formerly occupied by Mr. Williston in chamber over Walpole Book Store. Seventeen years experience. Josiah Williston to give his full attention to his shop in Saxtons River Village.

—Wanted A faithful hand to carry Mail from Walpole through Alstead, Acworth, Lempster, Unity to Newport once a week—Where may be distributed probably about 200 Newspapers.

In 1815 Eliphalet Fox left two sums of \$1,000 each to the Town of Walpole: "To be appropriated for benefit of schools in said town . . . to be kept under care and direction of Selectmen of Town and to be secured by real estate, the interest only of which to be paid annually for benefit



of schools, viz., for teaching only English Grammar, reading, writing and arithmetic."

#### DECADE 1820-1830

The 1820 census showed a population of 2,020, the largest number up to that time. The soil produced abundantly and everybody found enough to do, but the prices paid for labor were comparatively low. Most business was a barter trade. Everybody had enough to eat and drink, but to get cash was a difficult matter.

By 1801 there was a stage coach weekly up and down the river and to and from Boston. In 1803 Dearborn and Emerson established a line of stages Boston to Walpole using 3rd N. H. Turnpike; fare had been \$6.00, now Emerson's \$4.50. By 1807 three per week stage coaches were established between Boston and Hanover. By 1814 there was a regular four-horse stage Boston to Burlington with overnight stops in Keene Monday, Wednesday and Friday. From Boston to Rutland took three days. By 1826 there were competing lines, as many as 60-100 passengers each night at Keene. Many of these were six-horse stages. There was one line from Keene via Westmoreland through Walpole, another via Surry on the Cheshire Turnpike and the Forest Route, through Drewsville. The latter route from Boston to Vermont points was supposed to be shorter by 30 miles (crossed river at South Charlestown to Rockingham, bypassing Bellows Falls). The earlier stages did not cross the bridge to Bellows Falls because of the toll. The driver approaching would blow his horn, the passengers would alight and walk across the bridge for 3¢ each. Later coaches crossed the river.

Walpole was an important stage center. Otis Bardwell, George Huntington and Peletiah Armstrong controlled all the stage routes through the place, and thus were able to secure the transporting of the mails nominally at their own figures.

Mr. Huntington had bought the Holland House (Crafts Tavern). The business was very good, since many of the stage passengers either supped, stopped overnight or at least had a drink while the post master took the mail out of the bag, sorted it, and added his outgoing. The charge for a meal at the house was 33¢, considered an extortionary price.

By 1838 competition was keen, fares from Boston to Keene were reduced from \$4 to \$2.50. Noted Walpole stage drivers were Lovell Farr, Otis Bardwell, Thomas Bardwell, George Weymouth, Wm. Huntington, Ira Hodskins. Others, some of whom were from Walpole, were Jerome Armstrong, Deacon Green, John F. Sparhawk, Moses Downer, Gardner

Hall, Oren Hall, Henry O. Clark, John F. Perry, James Moody, John McCormick, Dean Butterfield, Thomas Miner, Oliver Huntington, Hiram Hodgkins. Some of these men later were railroad conductors.

Newman Weeks of Clarendon remembered: "On one of my return trips from Boston Otis Bardwell was keeping stage tavern in Walpole. Horses and drivers changed there. A four-horse coach was driven to the door and 'Little Dan Arms' took the reins, waited. A large, dignified, gray-haired man paced back and forth on the piazza, waiting. When Bardwell informed him that the coach was waiting he asked 'Where is the driver?' On being informed that the driver was in his place he exclaimed 'What, that boy to drive us over the Vermont mountains to Rutland?' "

"Comparatively, there was a large number of stores in town, where goods were sold in exchange for farmers' products, such as butter, cheese, pork, lard, beef, and, also, productions of the household, such as mittens, socks, frocking, tow cloth, etc. Large quantities of such commodities would accumulate in the store of the merchant during the season, which the farmer considered his special privilege with the merchant with whom he traded, to transport to market in winter, one or two loads of such products, and load back with such articles as the merchant needed to replenish his store, for which the farmer received in payment a few dollars in money and the rest from the store. Many farmers who could procure a horse and pung were sure to make one or more trips to Boston during the winter, for the purpose of exchanging their own and neighbors' products for such articles as were needed for family use. They generally carried their own food, such as baked beans, doughnuts, cooked spare-rib, and brown bread, and also, the oats for baiting their teams. So great was the number of such teams at times, that the more popular innkeepers found it difficult to accommodate them. After caring for their teams they resorted to the bar-room of the inn, where they always found an inviting fire in an open fireplace, when they would, after taking a little flip, draw forth from their buckets their home cooked viands and make their suppers, after which a little more flip, and sometimes with story telling it would be flip, flip, till the dying embers admonished them of the midnight hour. Generally the most the landlord got out of it was the profit on the flip and their lodging." (AH)

"Most of the heavy goods of the merchants were purchased in Hartford, Conn., and brought up the river in scows; every trader, who sold groceries, and most of them did, kept all kinds of liquors for sale. They, together with the tavern keepers, sold immense quantities of spirituous liquors. New England rum appears to have been a favorite beverage. A barrel was always 'on tap' to be drunk by customers, free, when they bought a small bill of goods, at the store. A large codfish in many cases was suspended near the rum barrel, on which hung a label requesting the pilferers to confine their depredations to that ONE until the bones were bare. It is supposed the codfish was eaten to create a thirst and relish for a little more blackstrap. In all the advertisements for the sale of goods in country stores at that time New England rum was printed with the largest type.

"Following are a few of the prices that various commodities were sold at, not vary-



ing much for a number of years: corn, 50 cents per bushel; oats, 25 cents, do; young beef, 2½ cents per pound; butter, 12½ do; cheese 6 to 7 do; pork, 4½ to 5 do., in Boston. Board, among farmers, was \$1.00 to \$1.25 per week; at hotels, in the country, \$1.50 to \$2.00 do; and rock maple wood was \$2.00 per cord. Farm labor was from \$10 to \$15 per month for six or eight months in the best of the season. School teachers received from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per week of 5½ days, for females, in summer; male teachers, in winter, were paid, on an average, about \$13 per month and board. Some of them had to 'board around' at that. Plenty of good female help could be procured from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per week." (AH)

In 1826 a new newspaper, the *Cheshire Gazette*, was started in town, living but one year. In size and general appearance it was quite respectable and would compare favorably with papers of a later date. "The *Farmers' Museum* was published here in 1823 and 4 by Hale and Moore and then suspended till about 1827, when it was revived by Nahum Stone and continued to be published in town till Nov. 14, 1828, when it was removed to Keene." (AH)

People were not happy about the Third N. H. Turnpike. In 1813 there was a petition to lay a county road, finally granted 1817. The new road began as the County Road does now, turning out of Prospect Street, opposite #154, continuing as the road does now past Stuart and Thomas Graves (#317 and #320) to a point west of the old Wellington fields (now Bunker #324) where the road turned southerly and continued to the Rapids and on easterly and southeasterly to the Westmoreland line near Priests (#352). Apparently this road was not entirely satisfactory either, for in 1822 Ebenezer Morse and others petitioned for a new road, claiming that the present road was mountainous, difficult for teams of any considerable burthen, subject in many places to being blocked by snow-drifts and frequently impassable. The court ordered the road to be built at the expense of the town (1822), the course of the present County Road. Voted April 15, 1823 "that the Town appropriate \$2700 . . . towards paying damages and making the road through this Town, also such portion of the Highway money as the Selectmen shall think proper . . . also . . . authorized to let out the making of said road in lots to individuals by auction to be made to their acceptance by the first day of September 1824." In 1824 voted to authorize the selectmen to keep the Third N. H. Turnpike in repair through Walpole and where it shall be abandoned by the proprietors to lay it out as a town road. The toll gates had already been removed from Keene to Walpole. From the Westmoreland line to Tucker Bridge was surveyed in 1824, 10 miles 26 rods, 4 rods wide, and the town took over. Charter was surrendered 1824, incorporation repealed July 4, 1837.

#### DECADE 1830-1840

“The financial crash of 1837 paralyzed all kinds of business in this town, as it did elsewhere. Many young men were idle, and those who obtained work worked for very small wages. Good field laborers were glad to work for from fifty to seventy-five cents per day. Business men struggled on between hope and despair till 1842, when they sought relief in bankruptcy. No less than thirty men in this town paid their honest dues by that means.

“The same year, Mar. 14th (‘town-meeting day’), three stages with mail and passengers started on their accustomed trips north, in the morning, and on arriving at Cold River it was found so much swollen by the backing of water from the Connecticut, that the bridge was almost afloat. One of the drivers Wm. Simonds, hazarded the experiment of crossing the bridge. Just as his leaders reached the north bank, the bridge floated away, taking the coach and all on board with it, and at the same time dragging the horses from the bank into the water. There were four passengers in the coach, three of whom were females and they, together with the driver, were precipitated into the river, which, at that time was filled with cakes of ice. The name of the man who was in the coach, was Swain—a messenger, conveying money to the bank at Bellows Falls. He had \$5,000 in a small trunk to which he clung, and also to one of the females till she was crushed by the ice, when he made for the west bank of the Connecticut as best he could on floating cakes of ice. All three of the females were lost, a Mrs. Dunham, Mrs. Chesley and her sister. The next driver, a Mr. Putnam, on seeing the catastrophe immediately returned to the village with his coach for help, while the third driver passed round, and over the upper bridge (there were two bridges then), and went on his way. Help was immediately obtained, half the men in town repairing to the scene. Simonds, the driver, was still in the water when help arrived, clinging to an overhanging bough. Slabs were procured and thrown upon the ice forming a perilous foothold, when Mr. F. A. Wier and others pulled him ashore in an insensible condition, but he soon revived. The body of one of the women was taken from the water at the time; but the other two were not found till the following summer. The coach and three of the horses were lost, and the town, in consequence of the disaster, suffered heavy damages.” (AH)

#### DECADE 1840-1850

“When I, Josiah G. Bellows, first knew the town, it differed as greatly from the present Walpole as modern Boston does from the old days of



the Brighton Artillery. The business life of the village, although modernized, is not very much increased, but the ways of its people, and their habits of thought are radically different. Of course, there has been something of so-called improvement. The streets and houses are far better kept, the cows no longer run at large, and one does not see now as great contrast in the outside ways of life, of its people, as we did then. . . .

“The physical changes of the village are well worth noting. Evidently the first comers were composed of two classes, the well-to-do and their poorer retainers. The first built on our streets large and commodious houses, and the second tucked away on the by-roads and under the wings of their neighbors’ mansions. There were no sidewalks then, and the roads ran on the surface without draining or ballasting. In the spring, the main street of the village, which evidently was built over what was once a bog hole, was a veritable slough of despond. No lights brightened our streets at night; no sewers conducted the offal away. We had not learned the use of water, and a very small amount was sufficient for the household, and the Saturday evening baths. . . . Those were the good old days when every well-to-do household kept one hired girl. . . . Such a one was Mary Tuttle, who came to me in infancy, and remained, the sole monarch of the kitchen for some seven or eight years, to be succeeded by her sister, Susan. . . . What women those old Yankee hired help were. . . . The house was about the same then as now. The meals were not elaborate, but fully as good, and the rooms as well kept. . . .

“The village store was a feature of that early life. There, every night, the wise men of the village gathered and discussed the affairs of the town, state, and nation. . . . The store filled a want for the men, at least (women were not recognized then), as nothing since has done. . . . Politics ran high those days. There was the Democrats’ store and the Whig store. The habitués of each represented their party, and woe betide the man who went from one shop into the other in the evening. . . .

“The Square has changed less than the rest of the town, and yet . . . when I come to think of it, only three buildings remain that then existed. On the site of the present hotel stood the old Stage Tavern, coming out ten or fifteen feet further east than the present structure. . . .

“Temperance did not obtain in those early days, but the matter began to be agitated in my childhood and we attempted to legislate morality into the peoples’ minds. Way back somewhere in the forties, our legislature passed some kind of a restrictive law, the five or the gallon law, I think it was called. The storekeepers stopped their sale of rum and almost a riot ensued. . . .

"At that time, about 1845, the snuff taking habit was very common. All the older people, ladies as well as men, carried snuff boxes, and gave wholesome sneezes in friendly unison.

". . . As I said, but few of the original buildings remain in our Square. Namely, Slade's Meat Market, and Holden's tenements in which is Mrs. Cota's bakery. I think some parts of Weber's store were built from the little barber's shop in which the late William Mitchell used to minister to his patrons and which then stood about where the bank now stands. This Mr. Mitchell was a great character in his day. A man of no inconsiderable wit, but wholly uneducated, and with a love for good liquor, which lasted to the end of his long days. In his little shop he carried on the congenial trades of a saddler and a barber. . . .

"Somewhere about 1845, one Major J. Britton came to town to keep store in the Slade Butcher Shop. He was the possessor of very luxuriant and rapidly growing whiskers, and one Saturday evening after he shut up store, he went to Mitchell's to be shaved. After he was comfortably seated in the barber's chair, lathered, and his face half scraped, he discovered to his horror that old Mitchell was extremely drunk, and his life was in imminent danger from the uncertain hand that held the razor. He strove to rise, saying that the shaving should be finished Monday morning, but Mitchell literally held him by the nose, as has been the custom of barbers from time immemorial, and when he started to get up, with a great tweak of the nasal protuberance, forced him back in his chair, saying, 'Mr. Britton, you came in to be shaved, and you must be shaved. Sit down.'

"As my next door neighbors, the Holland family merit attention. I have a confused memory of the joys of that house in my earliest childhood, of good motherly Mrs. Holland. A notable New England housewife who dipped her own tallow candles in the good old way by plunging a lot of cotton wicks, strung on a pine stick, into a great kettle of hot fat, melted sheep tallow was preferred, then hanging the stick up to cool and dipping another. The stick held some fifteen or twenty wicks, and so in that way, in a day, Mrs. Holland would make some two or three hundred tallow dips, as they were called. Whale oil and candles were the only means of light and the lamps gave but a faint gleam, and if the oil was, as it was apt to be, a little old and thick, required the constant application of the pick-wick to keep the flame alive.

"All the many great days of this house were carefully observed. The spring house-cleaning was done with a thoroughness commendable to the



housekeeper's eye. Then came the soap-making. In the early spring the soap fat, a heterogeneous collection of all the bones, grease and fragments of fat meat that had accumulated during the past year, were brought from the cellar. A leach was then set up, an empty cask without top or bottom, set in a grooved board, the bottom filled up a few inches with some pieces of plank and straw. On top of that came wood ashes, dampened just a bit, and thoroughly packed down until the cask was quite full. Cold water was then poured in at the top of the barrel, slowly percolated through the ashes and ran down upon the boards directed by its grooves, as good strong lye. The strong smelling soap-fat was heaped into a big iron kettle covered with lye and boiled. Everything was dissolved but the large bones, and even they were honey-combed. How the brew smelt to heaven. . . . When the barrel was about half full of the mixture, it was filled with spring water, thoroughly stirred and allowed to stand two or three days, and became the soft soap then used entirely for laundry purposes. . . .

"The Hollands kept bees, a half dozen or more hives or swarms. . . . At the height of the summer the bees would swarm. . . . A mass of bees in a thick cloud three or four feet in diameter would fly from the hives to some adjoining tree, bush, or fence, where they would light in a thick mass; and then the problem was how to tow them into a new hive, which would be placed as near as possible to the swarming throng, surrounded by saucers of honey and water and a tintinnabulation would begin, pounding on tin milk pans with a house key. . . .

"The pig killing time in the early winter was another great occasion of immense importance and a happy day for the boys. . . . On the appointed day the village pig-killer, who was a little, short, crooked-backed, lively old gentleman by the name of Jesse Graves, would come bringing his scalding tub with him, half an old fashioned sugar cask. The housewife would heat immense quantities of water. Jesse would catch each pig, put a slip noose around his upper jaw, and an assistant would hold the end of the rope taut over his shoulder standing with his back to the pig while Jesse would use the sacrificial knife. No sooner was poor piggie's life ended than he was lifted into the tub, soused with scalding water in which was mingled just the proper amount of tar, and swashed around therein until that crucial moment when the bristles would begin to start. The carcass was then laid on a raised platform, usually made out of one of the barn doors, which had been removed from its hinges, and the scraping off of the bristles would begin; and when the pig was apparently

well cleaned, the pig-cleaner would carefully go over the whole carcass with his sharpest knife to remove any of those small wiry hairs which had escaped the coarser scraper. Poor piggy was then swung up by the hindlegs on a hook and disembowled and the carcass allowed to cool. . . .

“In 1840 every man between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, except the very few exempted by the state, was required, at least once a year, to perform military duty, and compelled by law to provide, at his own expense, one good fire-lock carrying a bullet, not less than twelve to the pound, a cartridge box holding twenty-four rounds, three flints, etc., etc. . . .

“About this time, the proud and self-reliant military spirit that had made our nation . . . began to fade, and though men still gave outward respect to the military form they lost faith in its substance. And the militia degenerated into two classes, the one still believing in it because of the fine clothes and gorgeous plumes it affected, and the other and greater class, made up of malcontents whose grotesque appearance on the muster fields showed the contempt they felt for all which brought them the feudal bondage from which they had once escaped. . . .

“I have a dim and hazy recollection of the last muster of our uniformed militia on the Common. I was such a small boy that one of Grandfather’s men took me and carried me on his shoulder that I might better see the show, and I can remember the tall, stiff leather, brass ornamented, shakos of the riflemen, their gray trousers with a broad black stripe and bottoms protected for six or eight inches with leather, patent leather, I think.

“There were other uniforms, for at that time Walpole alone turned out, at least half a regiment, but I cannot remember them distinctly, although the ‘slambang’, as it was called, that is the great company in which all the ununiformed chaps marched, comes up quite distinctly. This company, as did all the others in our democratic land, chose its own officers, and always selected for the proud position of its captain a man not overstocked with brains, but with an overrunning sense of the importance of his great office and all of old Gen. Scott’s tone for fuss and feathers. He alone wore a uniform, as gorgeous as the full dress of a Central American General, and as incongruous in its make-up. He tried very strenuously to enforce that military discipline of which he had picked up just a smattering while his soldiers strove even harder to turn the whole thing into a piece of burlesque. The young soldiers who had not quite forgotten their boyish pranks loved to turn out in their working frocks of blue jeans which all farmers wore then, reaching below the knee. Their knapsacks were home-made of black leather or cloth, their cartridge boxes simply a chunk of plank with twenty-four augur holes bored therein. Their pan brushes, for in those days of flint locks one was quite essential, were from a cast-off shaving brush, while the bayonet on the musket was topped with a loaf of bread, an apple or any other old thing that the military taste of the owner thought appropriate. Late in the afternoon it became the



duty of the valiant captain to show his appreciation of the honor his citizen soldiery had conferred on him by treating them to unlimited punch. New England rum was very cheap and this nectar was brewed in a great washtub and set out by the roadside so the parade closed amid a Bacchanalian scene which would rather shock our twentieth century ideas. . . .

“It is worth while to remember that the old gun-house forms part of the dwelling now occupied by Mr. Elwell at the south end of the Common. The requirement of personal military service ceased about 1845. . . .

“The Mexican War, 1846-48, made hardly a ripple in our quiet life. Like all New Englanders we were bitterly opposed to this war and only a straggler here and there participated in it. I remember such a one, George C. Hubbard, who used to tell Henry Wells and myself marvellous stories of Cerro Gordo and Chapultepec.” (*Josiah G. Bellows Reminiscences*)

“In the fall of 1843, at the time of the annual regimental muster, a company of soldiers called the ‘saucy six’ was stationed on the Common, which had been planted with shade-trees but a short time before with much care. Certain persons living out of the village ever appeared to feel jealous of the village people or any improvements they might make within its limits. Accordingly, those miscreants took this occasion, headed by their captain, to uproot and destroy every tree growing there. It was found that no legal measures could reach these vandals, and the villagers showed their indignation by hanging the captain in effigy. At the next session of the State’s Legislature, through the effort of Frederick Vose, a stringent law was passed, protecting shade trees on public grounds. Never before were the citizens of the village more shocked than at this unprovoked vandalism. Subsequently in 1855-56, Benjamin B. Grant and Thomas G. Wells replanted the Common and also planted the principal streets with about 900 elms and maples, which have not been molested and are vigorously growing. . . .” (*History of Cheshire County*)

“In July, 1849, a charter was obtained for a savings bank in this town, which went into operation in 1850. The first President was Otis Bardwell. In 1852 David Buffum was chosen President and continued to hold the office till the bank went into liquidation, in consequence of the robbery in 1868. The deposits amounted to \$108,045.58, besides \$3,841.58 surplus, at the time the bank was robbed.

“In the spring of 1844, May 2d, a very high wind, accompanied with rain and sleet, prostrated some valuable timber lots in the south part of the town, blew down a number of barns, unroofed sheds, levelled wooden fences, etc., etc.” (*AH*)

*Bellows Falls Gazette:*

1845: Aug. 2—New stage arrangements Boston to Burlington 34 hours Huntington & Co. line of Post Coaches leave Keene every day except Sunday on arrival of stages from Fitchburg and Nashua railroad at 5 P.M. passing through Walpole, etc. Leave Burlington every day except Sunday 3 A.M., lodge Chester. At Walpole connects with Telegraph line of stages from Brattleborough, Northampton, Springfield.

1847: May 21—Marvin & Bailey have taken manufacturing establishment formerly occupied by Bellows & Peck (Drewsville), to manufacture by the yard or on shares Cassimeres, Plain Cloths and flannels. Most kinds of produce taken in payment.

“On Friday night (Sept. 17, 1849) between 12 and 1 o'clock we were aroused by the alarm of fire, and found Mr. Peck's store in a blaze. . . . Your house was in imminent danger and before we were dressed your father came over with his valuable papers, which he had calmness enough to collect before unlocking his door. Friends soon arrived and, in an incredibly short time, the furniture was transferred to our premises and the house left, as everyone feared, to be burned. There was little done to save it, so little hope was there, until Mr. Titus of Keene came. He told your mother that the house could be saved if he could take the direction. They instantly cut a hole in the roof and the Knapps and Bellows worked energetically in carrying water, wetting the roof and side of the house. The new best parlor carpet was found on the roof in the morning, rather too nice a receptacle for cinders! Your mother, never taken by surprise, acted with the utmost composure, and seemed gifted with unnatural strength. Toward six o'clock the fire began to abate, after laying waste as far as Mr. Mitchell's shop; the two end walls of the stores alone standing. . . . Your fences are rather dilapidated, the neat yard filled with dirty bricks, the fruit trees more or less injured and the grass spoiled for the season. . . . In the morning we found work enough for many hands, in restoring things to their accustomed places. . . . There were some ludicrous combinations and mistakes made which afforded much merriment in rectifying. For instance, will you imagine your mother's breakfast waiter all ready for morning on the bank by the Academy fence and one of your father's collars soaking in the pitcher of milk. Your mother's best bonnet crushed in the road, her dress caps jammed under a heavy drawer of china! The salt and sugar were mixed with the butter—and to cap the climax—an inkstand without a cork was carefully preserved in the carpet of the south parlor. . . . The scene commenced in Mr. Peck's and the whole inside was consumed before it broke through the shutters—so that he saved nothing at all—his books he had fortunately taken home the night before. . . . Rockwood had just finished the arrangement of his goods for an auction which was to be held on Wednesday next. He saved nothing but his books and a few goods—his wardrobe was entirely consumed—Wyman was absent, also Judge Vose. George saved most of the law books and papers—and the clerks were very efficient in rescuing a large proportion of the stock of goods. I can assure you our house and yard were quite a spectacle in the morning! Mr. Stowell lost nearly everything—he is thought to be the greatest loser, and it has almost unmanned the poor creature—Mr.



Watkins also was a sufferer—Mr. Maynard moved his leathers and shoes. Miss Sparhawk and the Mitchells moved everything. . . ." (*Letter from E. S. Wells to Herbert Bellows.*)

DECADE 1850-1860

At the annual town meeting in 1851 the committee for purchasing land for a cemetery, and for fencing, and laying out the same, reports they have purchased, at the estimate of impartial appraisers, the oak grove, and a strip of pasture land adjoining the old burying ground.

Cost of land 6.56 acres	\$ 486.995
Cost of fence and walls and steps and painting	616.04
Surveying, laying out and drawing map of same	69.60
To Mr. Farr to back boards to plan and maps	0.50
	<hr/>
	\$1,173.135
J. N. Knapp, <i>Chairman Committee</i>	

In the records for 1852 there is a list of the cemetery lots laid out at that time, with their numbers, owners and in some cases the price paid. "On completion of the cemetery a large number of the town's people gathered under the shade of the beautiful oaks in the cemetery and listened to the consecrating discourse delivered by Frederick N. Knapp, which was one of the most appropriate and chaste efforts ever made in town. Subsequently the sexton, who had charge of the grounds paid little attention to the map or the laying out, allowing the townspeople to locate their lots where fancy dictated, till there was so much irregularity that it was difficult to know where people owned lots and where they did not. In 1873 the town appointed a committee who caused a new survey to be made and a new map to be projected which enables one at a glance to find any lot desired.

The record of this decade in the HISTORY OF CHESHIRE & SULLIVAN COUNTIES begins: "This decade is void of any particular incidents that affected the people throughout the town." No account is given of the building of the railroad. Here and there through the records we find allusions such as the following: "When the Cheshire railroad was being constructed he (Jonathan Fletcher) felt afraid that he might not live to the time of its completion; but he did and stood in his doorway with dimmed eyes and streaming locks which had been silvered by the frosts of ninety-six winters and witnessed the fiery steed with a long train pass over the ground where sixty-nine years before he felled the trees to build





Howard S Andros  
1932

### *South from Fall Mountain*

his first cabin. What must have been his musings only imagination can paint.” (AH)

The charter for the Cheshire Railroad was granted by the legislature Dec. 27, 1844, to construct a railroad from any point on the south line of the state in Fitzwilliam to Rindge to the western boundary of the state in Walpole or Charlestown. On July 10, 1846, a charter was granted similarly to extend the railroad from Walpole to Windsor, Vt. Lists of persons in Walpole to whom damages were paid in connection with the building of these railroads is to be found in the office of the Secretary of State at Concord.

The original railroad bridges were covered wooden bridges. That over Cold River was replaced in 1897. At first there was no bridge across the Connecticut at the Falls and was not built until several months after completion of the railroad; replaced in 1899.

The first locomotive over the Cheshire Railroad in the fall of 1848 was run up as far as the end of the road in Westmoreland. Two four-horse teams drew it, dismantled, by the incomplete section in Walpole and set it up just over the Charlestown line. The first train ran over the line January 1, 1849, with a trainload of excursionists from Boston to Charlestown.



That part of the railroad from the Charlestown line south to Governor's Brook was built by Dutch immigrants. They were young married couples. The women are said to have been comely, attired in their native dress; a genial, fun-loving people. Young people from Bellows Falls and the country round attended the dances which they held in their temporarily constructed huts. The old Dutchman's crossing at the north end of North Walpole took its name from these people.

The rest of the Cheshire Railroad through North Walpole was built by Irish who had brought from the old country their old antagonisms and there was considerable fighting and bloodshed. At one time one group was forced from their shanties to take refuge on Fall Mountain.

Through a misunderstanding workers were brought in from Boston to speed up the work. When they arrived work had begun on a deep sand cut in the hill where the Nims house stood 1903 (still there). When the Boston workers arrived, the Irish had come out in their best suits, coatless, sleeves rolled up; women were in their best, each with a long white stocking filled with cobblestones. They took their stand along the gash in the hill. "Be Jabers, the first man who strikes a blow is a dead man sure." The Boston men refused to work. Finally an agreement was reached and fifty teams started drawing away the earth, filling in the cut which extended from there to Governor's Brook.

In 1851 the Sullivan Railroad secured a lease of land from Jonathan and Levi Chapin, built the "branch track" from Chapin's switch to Sullivan Railroad Bridge, a frame bridge built 1851, replaced by iron bridge about 1885.

For more detail see *Histories of Rockingham; Charlestown*.

#### DECADE 1860-1870

"Previous to 1861, the two political parties in this town had been vehement rivals for political ascendancy. The exertions annually made at the March and other elections, by both parties, to carry the town, and the amount of money expended for the purpose, became a proverb for strife and animosity. . . . As there was no way to settle the dispute except at the ballot box, the Republicans felt at ease, because they were in the ascendancy in town, county, state and nation." (AH)

"Walpole village was mighty quiescent in this stirring time and entirely unsuspecting of the wrath to come so soon. I don't think we at all realized the situation until that April morning (Apr. 12, 1861) when the news of the firing on Fort Sumter came. The change was instantaneous and the whole north rose as one man and within a week we began, even

here, in slow going New Hampshire, to prepare the first regiment for the front. Town meetings were held and the town pledged itself to back to the bitter end the government. I remember driving to Keene with the Haywards about the first of May to attend a great union mass meeting to be held there. The recruiting for the army had already begun and the first company from Cheshire County occupied benches directly in front of the speakers' stand. This meeting was held in the square and was attended by some thousands of people and addressed by the Hon. James Wilson of the Harrison campaign. There was nothing military about it. The new soldiers being only distinguished from the rabble by the red caps of the Keene firemen which they had borrowed for the occasion. . . .

"Bull Run soon followed, and shortly after it, the return of the few enthusiastic youths from our midst who had borne their share, in the heat and burden of the fateful day, and in the sixty-mile march back to Washington that followed it. The north, and even Walpole, began to realize that they had tackled a pretty big job and one and all, our people bent to the task before them with that steadiness, caution, and perseverance so characteristic of their race. (*Josiah G. Bellows Reminiscences*)

"The first town meeting that was called, when any business was transacted for war purposes, was held Oct. 9th, 1861. At that time the town voted \$500 to be expended for soldiers' families. The townsmen had but little idea of the magnitude the conflict would assume, and rested quietly on the statements made by public men that the war would be closed in 'sixty days'. In the meantime the women were active in devising some means for alleviating the sufferings of the soldiers, which, practically, at this time, amounted to but little; but when the Sanitary Commission was organized their help and exertions were all-powerful in mitigating the sufferings in body and mind of the wounded and sick soldier. Many soldiers, who had heretofore enlisted had died, while others had returned home, broken down with exposure and hardship, and the novelty and excitement incident to a soldier's life had well nigh died out, which had nearly put a stop to the enlistment of volunteers." (*AH* 112)

"In the summer of 1862 when defeat again roused the spirit of the north, large levies of men were called for by the government and some of the young men here, determined to enlist, started to raise a company in Walpole, of three-year men. The moving spirits were my blacksmith, John J. G. Johnson and my carpenter, Ben Pierce. With the help of some friends in adjoining towns, they raised the company in due time.

"During the two or three months which this occupied, the village presented some of the aspects of a garrison town. The first ten or fifteen re-



cruits made their camp on Admiral Robeson's lot on High Street but later the company moved to the Common and employed a young chap from a military school as drill master and the streets resounded with the martial music of fife and drum, while our bar-rooms rang through the night with the revelry of the about-to-be soldiers. Finally the company marched to the depot, and went to their regimental camp in Concord. I don't know that our company greatly distinguished itself although it saw pretty sharp fighting in the Shenandoah Valley, and quite a number of the boys never returned." (*Josiah G. Bellows Reminiscences*)

"Of the personal reminiscences of those who enlisted and participated in the late rebellion from this town, there are but few worthy of mention. There is but one, according to the Adjutant General's Report, that actually enlisted from this town, who is known to have deserted, and he was not a native citizen. Most of them returned with an honorable soldier's record.

"Lewis Hooper appears to have emulated his grandfather (Levi) in doing his duty as a soldier. He was one of the first to enlist in town, although his age would have saved him from military service. After serving out his first term of enlistment he came home to visit his family and friends, after which he re-enlisted as a veteran Jan. 3, 1864. He was promoted to corporal, and was killed in action, May 18, 1864. His son John B. was with his father during his whole term of service.

"Two promising young men, Wesley J. Barnett and Warren D. Fay, the former the son of John Barnett, and the latter the son of Dana Fay, citizens of the town, both enlisted Nov. 28, 1861, into the N. H. 6th Regiment. They did not live, however, long enough to see much service, for they both died of measles, in the following January, Barnett on the 14th, and Fay on the 16th.

"Another young man, Edward H. Livingstone, enlisted in the N. H. 14th, Sept. 28th, 1862, with twenty-eight others at the same time. He contracted malarial fever, while stationed at Poolsville, Md., and died there, Feb. 18th, 1863. His body was brought to Walpole and buried in the old cemetery where a suitable marble slab marks his last resting place.

"Wm. A. Barker and Benjamin Gates 2nd both died of disease, the former leaving a wife and several small children and the latter a widow. John F. Kraetzer, and three of his sons, Otis, Henry and Julius, enlisted. The father at the time was considerably past middle life. He was for a time engaged in various hospitals caring for the sick and wounded—an excellent nurse. Otis was shot, and died from his wounds, and Henry died of disease.

"Subsequent to the draft all demands made upon the town for men till the close of the war were answered by the town's furnishing money to procure men for the service. The prices paid were regulated by the law of supply and demand, ranging from \$400 to \$750.

"The indebtedness of the town in 1862 was \$5,300; and in 1866 it was \$46,000; and it is safe to say that \$40,000 of this indebtedness was incurred in consequence of the war. In 1869 the town debt was funded to the amount of \$36,000.

"There were one hundred and eighty-five persons credited to this town in all, volunteers and substitutes, as going into the service, of whom seventy-five were actual residents. Eight of the three-month men re-enlisted; nine died of disease; four were killed outright; eight wounded; six missing; while fifty-three of the 'substitutes' are known to have deserted, and five volunteers were discharged on account of disability.

"Hubbard B. Newton enlisted from this town into the New Hampshire 14th Regt., but, for some reason not known, he never received any bounty, nor was he credited to Walpole. He was subsequently transferred to the 1st Rhode Island Cavalry. At Mountville he was taken prisoner, in 1862, and marched to Richmond. . . . He was on the march three days and three nights before arriving at the place of his destination, which was Libby Prison; he remained thirteen days, when he was paroled. After the battle of the Rapidan, on the retreat of the Union forces, he was shot in the right arm, producing a compound fracture, and taken prisoner again. He served his country three years and was honorably discharged.

"Benjamin Lawrence enlisted at the same time Newton did, and into the same regiments, but was not credited to this town. . . . At the battle of Mountville he was taken prisoner at the same time Newton was, and shared the same fate. At the battle of Aldie he was in the regiment of Col. Duffy (Duffea) who went into the fray with six hundred men and came out with *twenty-seven*. . . . In endeavoring to fight their way out Lawrence came in contact with a rebel soldier, who called upon him to surrender, and instead of obeying the rebel's command he pointed his pistol at him and made several unsuccessful efforts to fire, but his cartridge did not explode. . . . Lawrence now saw it was a case of life or death with him; whereupon he flung his pistol at the soldier's head. . . . His pistol struck the pistol of the rebel and gave it an oblique cant and at the same time it exploded, the ball entering Lawrence's body in an oblique direction just above the hip. He fell from his horse and was left for dead upon the field. At night he revived and crawled to a shanty near by, where he was humanely cared for till the Union forces took him to a hospital;



but surgical aid was of no avail; the bullet could not be extracted. He recovered sufficiently to be able to return to Walpole, where he lingered till Aug. 30, 1865, when he died from the effects of the wound received." (AH)

"The late Dr. Henry W. Bellows early conceived the idea of the Sanitary Commission and went to Washington, I think, just after the unfortunate Bull Run Campaign. On his return our people were gathered together in the town hall and he told them of his experience, not as an audience, he said, but as his friends and fellow townsmen." (*Josiah G. Bellows Reminiscences*)

"Dr. Bellows was President of the Sanitary Commission. Of the number who at *first* volunteered their services from this town was Rev. Frederick N. Knapp. Joshua B. Clark went as superintendent of the soldiers' home, Waldo F. Hayward as superintendent of supply department, Peter Reynolds went as relief agent, stationed at Washington, D. C. and at Brashear City, La. Thomas B. Peck filled the position of clerk on Sanitary claims and Dr. Geo. A. Blake was general Agent and Hospital Inspector. He is thus spoken of by the Sanitary Commission. 'In the department of the Gulf the work of the Sanitary Commission was admirably administered by Drs. Crane and Geo. A. Blake, who continued at New Orleans until the close of the war, doing most efficient service. Dr. Newbury sent down cargo after cargo of vegetable food to Dr. Blake, who distributed it among the garrisons at isolated points on the Gulf, the Red river and to posts in Texas.' " (AH)

The decade histories prior to 1870 are based primarily on George Aldrich's *Walpole As It Was and As It Is* (1880); from 1870 to 1962 the accounts are based on material gleaned from contemporary newspaper reports. Edith Cole Tiffany painstakingly reviewed the notes and added her comments for the better understanding of the material. The principal newspapers used were the *Bellows Falls Times* and the *Keene Evening Sentinel*. For a time the *Walpole Gazette* and the *Cold River Journal* were published as editions of the *Claremont Advocate*. They proved a good source of information while they lasted. In 1904 they were purchased by the *Times*.

Dr. George A. Blake was the local correspondent for the early part of this period. There is no question but what his reporting was flippant and far from boring. The people in town did not mind for themselves, but they were concerned about what outsiders would think of them. Reporters for small towns seemed to enjoy considerable license in those days. In 1877 Dr. Blake reported "We have had a lively winter and a fair propor-

tion of scandal". In the same column he reported "Save for an occasional fracas at North Walpole and a little domestic infelicity in the village the reporter found the field barren of news at times".

#### DECADE 1870-1880

In July 1874 a tempest was brewed when the citizens found that during the preceding night someone had neatly felled one of the maples on the Common, bringing back memories of the Saucy Six in 1843. Subsequently James Dinsmore and Judge Tufts (1879, 1881) set out over 100 maples along the road on Depot Hill. In 1898 maples from George Taggard's were set along the west side of the cemetery.

On Friday, Sept. 11, 1873, at 4 P.M. there was a bad wind and hail storm in Westminster and Walpole. It struck about halfway between Walpole Village and Bellows Falls, cutting a swath one half to three quarters of a mile wide. Charles Hooper's and Charles Parkinson's tobacco barns were destroyed, the latter with the crop from eight acres. There were in this barn at the time six oxen, one yoke of oxen and four men, two of whom had gone aloft to close the windows, and fell 30 feet. Edgar Taft of Alstead broke his thigh; James T. Moore sprained his wrist. One ox had his back and five ribs broken. The tobacco in the barn was a total loss as well as three acres not yet harvested. Others losing tobacco were John Hooper two acres, Oliver A. Doolittle three acres, Henry Rawson two acres, W. W. Sanderson four acres. Doolittle's shed was ruined. The storm skirted the ridge east of Willard Blanchard's farm, twisting off tops of pine trees up to 18 inches diameter; tipping over Cyrus Royce's shed and leaving his colts exposed; destroying three acres of tobacco on Nehemiah Royce's farm; demolishing Gardner Dodge's cider mill. At Drewsville it blew down a tree in front of Putnam's store, leaving the new school unscathed; lifted Matthew Tole's barn from its underpinning and moved it eastward, the ell with it left awry; broke pines in Augustus Maynard's yard west of his house.

In 1870 a state law was passed whereby the selectmen, on petition, could suppress the local sale of liquor. In 1873 a temperance meeting was held at the town hall with over 100 in attendance. Tentative plans were made for an organization with the following officers: Chairman George Aldrich; Secretary John Hayward; Committee to work out plans for organizing—C. B. Lucke, Rev. Mr. Dickinson, John B. Russell, Edwin Guild, John W. Hayward, Charles Fisher. Difficulty arose in getting signers to the petition to the selectmen.

When no liquor agent was appointed at the next town meeting, some



expressed the opinion that there was no need of one since liquor could be obtained freely without his services.

In August 1888 there was much excitement over the prosecution of Landlord Smith of the Dinsmore House for selling liquor. Twelve citizens were summoned to Keene as witnesses, but just before they left town the summons was countermanded, arousing great curiosity as to the reason.

In 1890 H. A. Huntley's hotel at Drewsville was raided, a large amount of contraband liquor seized. At Keene he pleaded guilty to charges of being a common seller and keeping with intent to sell. He was fined; his sentence suspended on good behavior.

In March 1894 two stirring addresses were delivered at the meeting of the Cheshire County Temperance Union at the town hall.

At North Walpole McDonald's, Riley's Walpole House, Murphy's, Pickett's and Brennan's were raided off and on. The correspondent remarked that the sellers seemed to stand a lot of legal interference. There was complaint that the oldtimers were undisturbed.

The bottling works at the brewery were also raided. The law prevented bottling *and* selling within the state. Work came to a standstill.

In September 1901 a meeting was called in North Walpole to take action on whether officials were doing their duty in enforcing the liquor laws. There were 300 present. After some difficulty in getting a chairman and secretary, the meeting was opened to discussion. After fifteen minutes of silence the meeting was adjourned.

In 1908 Walpole voted against license, leaving Alstead the only wet town in the county. This meant a loss of \$2,380.62 in license fees to the town, and it did not stay dry.

In November 1916 there was a big temperance rally at the town hall, 150 from North Walpole going down by train. They formed a torchlight procession from Westminster Station to the town hall, then returned on the 11:20 train. The election went no license by 59 votes. Prohibition followed. There is now a state liquor store at North Walpole.

Sidney Hemenway of Grafton was conducting singing schools in Walpole and Drewsville in 1873 and continued for some years, sometimes ending the season with a sleigh ride to Alstead for supper and a dance. In 1883 Barber was holding classes every Thursday evening during the winter at the Academy.

In May 1878, after several months of rehearsals, the Choral Union presented at the town hall the operetta "Ruth" with gorgeous costumes and scenery. Mrs. George A. Blake was the pianist, and the rehearsals were held in her parlor. Following is the cast: Ruth, Mrs. H. J. Watkins;

Naomi, Mrs. H. N. Bellows; Orpah, Miss Lizzie Maynard; Jewish Maiden, Miss Helen Watkins; Israelitish Woman, Mrs. Hastings; Messenger, Miss Mary Maynard; Boaz, W. A. Maynard; 1st Reaper, H. H. Kimball; 2nd Reaper, Mr. Barber.

In January 1885 Prof. J. H. Ketchum conducted a singing school with intensive training for a short period, beginning with a free concert. The following December the same group presented "The Wreck of the Hesperus" with Miss Lizzie Maynard conducting. Soloists were Charles Hale, tenor; Albert Dickey, basso; Miss Carrie Wells, soprano; Miss Mary Maynard and Miss Lillie Hale, alto; Mrs Charles Barnes, pianist.

In 1912 Rev. Megathlin was instrumental in organizing a Chorus Club with Mr. Coffin of Keene as leader. Harry J. Stowell was president, Fred A. Metcalf vice-president, Archie I. Davis secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Fred Ramsay, Mrs. Charles S. Hawks, Mrs. George B. Holland, D. G. Phelan, John H. Williams, Rev. C. A. Amor directors. One hundred were present for the organization meeting.

Sleigh rides were a popular diversion, even though it was sometimes fearfully cold and windy, as in 1884 when 28 couples went to Westmoreland South Village for a supper served by Alonzo Burt. On the return trip several sleighs upset and some of the men were obliged to walk and lead the horses. Graves had a four-horse livery outfit which in 1900 took 19 young people to the Eagle in Charlestown for supper. There was much merriment—moonlight, mild weather, cornets and other instruments "making spirits bright". There was an annual sleigh ride to Chapin's in Alstead, in 1906 one hundred four making the trip. In 1914 there were ninety who went down to Willis Foster's on the Wentworth Road for an evening of fun. In 1903 a two-horse sled load went from Wentworth Road to Christian Hollow every night while Mr. Borthwick was preaching.

Nearly every season there were dancing schools, ending with an exhibition or ball, which were replaced in 1899 by assemblies. Many dances were held at the homes: in Drewsville at G. W. Jenna's with music by Nelson Burnell and Mrs. George Wallace, with "oysters and other comforts for the inner man", dancing until the small hours of the morning; at Leslie Chandler's where friends and neighbors gathered "with lunch baskets, fiddles and preparations for a good time"; and at Elihu Hill's in the Valley, a pound party, with refreshments and dancing. In the winter of 1886 there was a hop at Charles E. Watkins' with 70 present. In July 1878 Levi A. Ross gave his wife a real party for her birthday. He set up three round tents and one long one where tables were loaded with cold



meats, lobster salad, potato salad, pastries, cake, strawberries and ice cream. Woods' Quadrille Band furnished music for dancing and there were fireworks in the evening.

There were also church sociables where the old folks chatted, the young people danced, and the children played games. In 1900 Old Folks' Dances at the town hall were so popular that the lower hall wasn't large enough. They brought box lunches and coffee was furnished free. They continued to be popular and in 1926 were being put on by Charles Angier and Tom Kiniry, later by Josiah Graves, Harold Foster and George Tiffany.

In 1894 eighty people husked 100 bushels of corn, ate an oyster supper, and then danced till morning light at S. B. Putnam's.

There were numerous dance halls about town. At Drewsville there were Bond Hall, where Nelson and Mattie Burnell furnished the music, and Taunt's Tavern. Thomas Taunt had an annual ball, advertising "a good hall and as good a barn for stabling horses as was ever built". In the south part of town Burt Hall was popular. In 1936 a dance was held in the old hall, just for fun, reminiscent of the oldtime dances there thirty years and more earlier. Even the old bills were used, "Horses will be cared for for 25 cents". In the village the dancing classes were held in Howard Hall or at the Academy. The "balls" were at the town hall, in 1874 the lower hall being advertised as free from drippings of creosote from the stove pipe. At the calico ball in 1881 Mrs. Horace A. Perry was awarded the first prize, Miss Mary F. Tobey second. Mrs. George Burt and Miss Nora Ball were also very lovely. Dancing was until 2 A.M. In 1882 there were 75 couples at the Firemen's Ball, although in later years attendance was not so good. There were also annual balls at the hotel in the village, music by Maynard & Wheeler's Quadrille Band, the prompter with some new changes. Mr. Teel preached against round dances, but did not object to square dances. In 1915 the authorities forbade the turkey trot and tango in the town hall.

In 1875 a Ladies' Reading Club was organized and an Amateur Dramatic Club revived. In 1876 there were two Shakespeare Clubs, one all women, the other sandwiched with men, and a Dickens Club. In 1878 there were two reading clubs and at school a lyceum (discussions). There were also lyceum courses at various times, in later years free to the public, supported by subscription. Prof. Franklin Hooper was an ardent worker in this field. At his home he built a music shell for concerts in the pines.

In 1879 there was the Sorrel Club, a group of young women who blacked their faces, wore pants and performed private minstrel shows for their own amusement.

Spelling bees were especially popular in 1875, held at the town hall, a Webster's Unabridged Dictionary the prize. Participants were Misses Lillie Webster, Annie Hitchcock, Jennie Barnes, Mrs. Henry J. Watkins, Charles Barnes, Rev. William Brown.

When town meeting approached, the Republicans began to stir themselves even though they expected to be beaten at the polls. In 1874 Col. A. H. Bellows gave a free campaign supper to all Republicans at the town hall, put on by the proprietors of the Wentworth. The Bellows Falls Band played; there were campaign toasts and stories. Next day they lost in the election, but there were ten more Republicans than the year before. It was a great day. The wind blew a hurricane and it snowed great guns. A Republican from Carpenter Hill said a drift in his neighborhood measured 35 feet long and 30 feet deep. Fences were covered, yards full, and driving outside the village was especially delightful when one met a two-horse sled loaded with wood.

It was customary for the political parties to hang their flags across the Square. During the summer of 1876 the Democrats raised a flag in July "Reform Tilden & Hendricks". In August the Republicans raised their Hayes & Wheeler flag. At North Walpole a Democratic flag disappeared and there was a vitriolic news story in the "Manchester Union", but it was discovered later that Albert Nims, president of the local Democratic Club, had taken it down. In 1884 there was a Cleveland & Hendricks flag in the Square, and a Blaine & Logan one in the Hollow. In 1888, as usual, the Democrats won locally, but the Republicans celebrated their national victory with a supper at the town hall, put on by Landlord Smith at 50¢ per plate, 150 served. Before the supper Alton Gile trundled Jack Hayward around the Common in a wheelbarrow to pay an election bet, and there was the rumor that a certain Democrat was to wheel a Republican from Walpole to Drewsville.

Before the election in 1896 there was a torchlight parade in the village and many went to the rally at North Walpole. That was the year William King went over to the Republican camp, taking many Democrats with him and winning a Republican victory at last. There was hardly standing room in Davis' drug store when the election returns were received.

In 1912 the Progressives organized with Charles H. Barnes as chairman; A. P. Davis, clerk; O. J. Butterfield, delegate. In November they held a rally at Bond Hall in Drewsville. The speakers failing to appear, Benjamin Bragg and Dr. Mousley spoke impromptu on dancing, singing and temperance. The vote was Wilson 283, Taft 156, Roosevelt 102.



Town meetings often waxed hot, particularly when the North Walpole people got stirred up as they did in 1903 over a new bridge—"North Walpole may be the tail end, but the tail nearly wagged the dog. . . . Two hundred and eighty-seven came down on the special train which stopped at every cross street, thirty came on the regular morning train and twenty on the regular afternoon train—there wasn't a voter left in North Walpole. The area north of Cold River lacks only thirty of having a majority of the voters in town. There were 830 names on the checklist, the largest number ever, with 50 new from each end of town. . . . Feeling ran high with opposition . . . neither convincing or effective. The vote was 314-214 in favor."

In 1874 there was a real celebration of Independence Day beginning with a sunrise salute of 37 guns. At 9 A.M. there was a Parade of Antiques and Horribles: Herrod Brown was the most amusing with a one-horse shay; Mr. Blodgett, dressed as a strongminded woman with a Woman's Rights banner, rode his favorite near ox; Frank Porter had his trained bull and Levi Ross was an Indian on horseback. There was also a baseball game in the morning with the players dining at the Wentworth. At 3 P.M. there was a trotting race, the first on the new Cheshire Park track. There were five entries: Stephen Cory, Hubbard Newton and Stephen Allen winning. The other two entries were William A. Maynard and George Angier. A shower coming up hastily dispersed the thousand spectators. At 6 P.M. there was a sack race, and a bonfire of tar barrels in front of the Wentworth closed the festivities.

On July 4, 1876, bells were rung at sunrise, noon, and sunset; and the big cannon was discharged at 10 A.M. Rev. Dr. Bellows gave a patriotic address, C. R. Crowell read the "Declaration of Independence" and the united choirs sang patriotic songs. Rev. Brown and Rev. Robie led devotional services. In the evening there was a strawberry festival at the Unitarian Church.

As time went on, July 4th was celebrated with various pranks. In 1883 a coffin was placed at the office door of each doctor—probably borrowed from a citizen who had bought them at an auction and had not had use for them in his family. In 1884 the 4th was quiet, Mr. Cady discharging the cannon at intervals. In 1885 the old town house roof caught fire from firecrackers thrown from the belfry, but it was extinguished without serious damage. In 1886 there was lots of foolishness—exchanging gates, hanging a buckboard where the Democratic flag had been, putting a horse rake in the bandstand. In 1887 there was not the usual exchange of property, only a few pickets blown off Dr. Knights' fence. The streets

were well patrolled by an officer on a donkey. There were fireworks at Hastings' and the Elmwood. In 1888 there was only one accident, the bursting of a small cannon on the square. No one was hurt. One piece crashed through the side of R. L. Ball's boot-and-shoe store, another struck C. C. Davis' store, the third went through the bandstand, and the fourth landed in the second story of the hotel. The gunners escaped miraculously.

In 1891 the Horribles Parade was noted as the best thing of its kind ever seen in Walpole—from a six-horse emigrant wagon to a light baby carriage, a clumsy Mexican Cart to a modern trotting sulkey. The music was by the surviving members of the old Walpole Cornet Band and an improvised drum corps. The only accident was the upset of the fat baby, dumping him into the mud with his three gallon bottle of milk. At the town hall there was dinner and an oration and in the afternoon there were races.

By 1900 there wasn't much but noise. Many went to Bellows Falls to watch the ball game between Bellows Falls and North Walpole. The lineup for the latter was Stanley lf, Warn c, McCarthy 3b, E. Lynch 2b, Bryan cf, Farnsworth p, J. Lynch ss, Drislane lb, Thomas rf. Bellows Falls won 21-19.

In 1903 the Fourth was heralded by bells. During the day the band rode around town in a lumber wagon; there was the firing of cannon and shooting off of crackers; ending with a bonfire in the Square. The lamp posts were pulled up sooner than the commissioners had planned, an old fence removed and a horse rake misplaced. (The new arc lights were to be ready by August 1st, the incandescent lights came soon after.) By 1913 there were fine displays of fireworks and probably plenty of noise. The day seemed to lose its appeal as time went on. During the past decade even firecrackers have been outlawed. Displays of fireworks are beyond the means of most citizens.

Decoration Day was not generally observed. Mrs. Mary Livingston (89), who lost a son in the Rebellion, with the assistance of two neighbors in 1878, walked to the cemetery and marked the graves of soldiers with flags and strewed flowers. It took her five hours. It soon became the custom for the G.A.R. from Bellows Falls to assist with the exercises, including decorating of the graves. By 1895 there were only three veterans left in town and the appropriation was passed over in town meeting. In 1927 Charles Hathaway and William Hall were the only veterans of the Rebellion living in Walpole.

After World War I the American Legion and Auxiliary held Memorial



Day exercises and marked the graves of veterans with flags. They still continue this service.

In the fall it was customary to have grand hunting contests with a "feed" at the Wentworth, sometimes an oyster supper, sometimes a "dinner" at \$1.50 each loser, 50¢ for outsiders too conscientious to shoot a squirrel. Two teams competed with a certain number of points scored for the shooting of various game. In 1877 the ladies objected to the killing of red and "striped" squirrels and innocent birds. That year the tally was 13 hedgehogs, 33 skunks, 3 woodchucks, 1 rabbit, 12 muskrats, 44 gray squirrels, 1284 red and "chipper" squirrels, 1 hen hawk, 39 partridges, 1 woodcock, 18 crows, 4 pigeon hawks, 6 wild pigeons, 2 yellow hammers, 26 blue jays. It seemed to be part of the game to steal what one could from the opposing team. One year mud-turtles were the highest scoring game. In 1884 there were 1461 woodchucks killed in town, not all in the contest.

Night-blooming Cereus blossoms made an occasion for calling in one's neighbors. In September 1874 "Edwin Hosmer's house was brilliantly lighted until a late hour to show off two Night-blooming Cereus blossoms. The third bud opened sheepishly next morning." July 1876 "George Barnet has Night-blooming Cereus, a Fuchsia 8 feet high with 1000 buds, a Wax Plant 200 feet long in Blossom." He was famed for his flower arrangements at the Orthodox Church. In 1879 hundreds called on Mrs. William Farnam when ten buds opened on her Night-blooming Cereus.

In 1877 Upham of Bellows Falls was having a good sale of organs and pianos in Walpole. In June 1878—"We shall soon expect to see the latest invention of our age, Prof. Edison's phonograph, in our midst. It seems incredible that an inanimate machine can be made to repeat the speaker's voice; but it is even so—we saw." In 1891 Andrew Angier was giving exhibitions with his Edison phonograph, and others were also entertaining their friends with the new invention.

With warm weather, gypsies came with a small drove of horses for sale, traveling in good style with a large, commodious vehicle that could be converted into kitchen, dining-room, bedroom. They were sharp, keen traders, and one sometimes recognized a horse in their possession. One was described thus: "Horsemen say he is fitty, my experience with him teaches me he is epileptic, subject to falling sickness which is very inconvenient when one is far away from home and in a hurry to return."

In May 1876 a travelling bear entertained in the street rather than the

usual organ grinder and monkey. By 1879 it seems to have become an annual event, frightening cats and dogs and delighting the young folks.

There were travelling shows of various kinds: ventriloquists, magicians, dramatic readers, Uncle Tom's Cabin in 1879. These were at the town hall. Now and then a circus with a sideshow came this way in summer (1878 in August). In September 1893 "Scribner's & Smith's circus was here on Allen Dunshee's meadow. Teams conveying the circus began to arrive about 7 A.M. and proceeded immediately to the grounds just north of Dunshee's barns, and in a few hours time had completed erection of the tents, etc. At 1 P.M. there was a street parade—brass band, six wagons of many colors, clowns with small turnout bringing up the rear. It drew quite large audiences afternoon and evening—usual feats, except no horses in the ring. Some were disappointed, others pleased, but the small boys enjoyed everything from beginning to end. This was like the oldtime circuses that travelled on the road."

Beginning in 1824 we find references in the town records indicating the beginning of circuses here. That year a license was granted for exhibiting animals; in 1827 a license to Lewis B. Titus to exhibit a caravan of animals; in 1832 one for a circus to perform in the village and to Titus & Aryavaine to exhibit a caravan of living animals and wax figures.

The larger circuses showed at the Falls, sometimes at North Walpole north of Elm Street, especially when the restrictions in Bellows Falls were not to the taste of the management (license fee, for instance).

In June 1878 Nelson Hastings was astonishing the community by his feats on his modern bicycle that cost \$150. His quickest time was one mile in 2.37 minutes. In 1879 bicycle racing on Main Street became a pastime. On Memorial Day 1894 some bicyclists returning from the baseball game at Charlestown claimed that they did the 12 miles in 55 minutes. In 1895 two Walpole cyclists rode from Charlestown to Bellows Falls in 25 minutes. John Ostenburg rode to Keene and back without dismounting, 75 minutes each way, by the lower road, 17 miles. A favorite five-mile ride was down the River Road, cross by Smalley's (Hall's Crossing Road) and home by Hall's Mills. Some called it nine miles. Bicycle riding on the sidewalks was a nuisance.

In 1912—"Between bicycles on the sidewalks and automobiles on the streets pedestrians will have to take to the woods. William Burrows came coasting down Prospect Street so fast that he ran into George Chickering's bay colt coming up Main Street. The wagon struck a tree and Mr. Chickering was thrown out. The horse got clear of the wagon, except for one shaft, went through Mr. Holden's lot, jumped a picket fence, went



through Mrs. Buffum's yard knocking down a fence, came down Middle Street to the Common, through Mr. Butterfield's lot, and was then caught unharmed."

In 1919—"Ernest Chalifoux lost control of his wheel riding down Whipple Hill and was badly cut about the face and head. He lived six miles from the village and had to ride his bicycle or walk half the distance, and then ride on the school team the rest of the way."

In the spring the chestnut trees, loaded with masses of drooping white blooms, in pasture and woods gave promise of an abundant harvest. Gathering nuts was a pleasant fall pastime. In October 1879 the crop of butternuts and chestnuts was especially abundant, and it was said that even a freight train stopped by Buffum's chestnut orchard to allow all but one of the brakemen to leave the train to gather chestnuts and on the return trip stopped to pick them up. By 1921 the chestnuts were falling prey to blight, as the elms are now being destroyed by the Dutch Elm Disease.

In June 1878 George Aldrich was taking a census of the town which he intended to publish in serial form, giving a narrative of the early history and sketches of the lives of some of the earnest and distinguished men who had lived in Walpole. In March 1879 the town voted \$500 to complete his history of the town. The volume came out in 1880 and, like all new books, excited some criticism.

In 1879 there was good coasting, enjoyed by young and old. They came down High Street "a mile a minute," but with no accidents. Among the older people who enjoyed the coasting were Mrs. Josiah G. Bellows and her brother, Judge Howland of New York. Depot Hill was somewhat more dangerous. Sliding into a dark bridge might scare a horse even if there was no collision.

In 1908 Kenneth, son of Frank Howard, in coasting down the steep hill at the north end of Elm Street, at the corner of Turnpike Street, collided with Spaulding & Slade's grocery sleigh. Driver Allen Russell jumped out and picked up the boy who thought he was not hurt. However, they found that the horse had stepped on his left thumb and severed it completely. They found it lying on the sidewalk.

In January 1914, as a result of a coasting accident on Prospect Hill, Howard Weymouth had to have 100 stitches taken in his face at the Bellows Falls Hospital; and in 1916 Grace Foster and Leona Corey were hurt coasting on the Hill Road in District #10. The road was icy and they hit a bare spot.

Situated halfway between New York and the White Mountains, Boston

and Saratoga, Walpole developed as a mecca for summer boarders. By June they began to arrive and the streets teemed with nurses and baby carriages. Many stayed at Mrs. Wright's Boarding House on the west side of the Common where croquet was a favorite pastime, and the "old men's game of round ball". At Drewsville Mrs. F. A. Wier kept boarders for many years, charging \$5 to \$8 per week.

"In 1882 there were more summer boarders than ever before, old and young, enjoying quiet ease, repose, slumber, musical soirees, parties, general unceremonious run-together. They formed what they called the Impromptu Club of home and foreign talent under the leadership of W. A. Swasey of New York and Charles F. W. McClure of Cambridge, Mass., put on a play, had a grand reception and ball at the Dinsmore. Every pleasant evening the streets of the village presented a holiday appearance and the tradesmen looked smiling and prosperous." In 1889 Thomas Nelson Hastings stayed at the Elmwood, coming from Cambridge with his horses and carriage which were cared for at Fred Lebourveau's stable. That spring Fred had mated and sold three pairs of fine horses, two grays, two chestnuts, and best of all two bay mares that could trot double in three minutes and better single.

#### DECADE 1880-1890

About 8 P.M. on a day in November 1880 fire was discovered in the shed between the Wentworth House and its stable. The hotel, barn, piggery of Charles G. Maynard and livery stable of Wm. A. Maynard burned. Rain prevented further conflagration. In response to a telegram, the Bellows Falls company came as fast as horses could carry them. The village was cast into gloom and lost interest even in the presidential election.

Late in the winter bystanders watched the digging of the cellar for the new hotel, the stone for the new foundation being brought from Fitzwilliam by rail. On Feb. 10, 1882 there was the official opening of the new hotel, a grand ball and supper. Music was furnished by Maynard & Wheeler's full orchestra, with hotel celebrities from all over New England present.

One Saturday in February 1881 the correspondent counted 28 sleighs in the square, while there were several more out of sight in sheds. In January 1889 "The most disgusted looking person we have chanced to meet recently is the young man who early in December bought a new and stylish sleigh, resplendent with gay upholstery and silver trimmings,



in which to take his best girl to ride. How sad to think what might have been, with a little snow on the ground."

In 1881 there was talk of a telephone line from the depot to the village; in 1882 connection with Bellows Falls. In May 1882 a trial telephone was set up between E. K. Seabury's store and his residence, line to be extended if successful. A year later it proved a great help. While Mr. Seabury was engaged at his store, a pair of his horses hitched to a lumber wagon took fright at his house and started to run for the street. Mrs. Seabury hurried to the telephone and gave the alarm in time for Mr. Seabury to go out and stop the horses.

In November 1882 C. C. Davis had a telephone installed in his store. In October 1886 he sent an order to Boston by telephone, upward of 100 words. The message had to be relayed at Fitchburg, but was promptly and correctly filled.

By 1893 there was a public telephone office, telephone booth installed. In November 1897 F. E. Hawks, station agent, made arrangements for a telephone exchange through the village to Walpole station. Everyone would subscribe to the cost, stand a proportion of the cost of maintenance and own his instrument. By December 20 the line was completed from the station to Perry & Porter's store, with eight instruments—N. W. Holland's grain store, station agent's residence, Mrs. E. F. Tobey, F. A. Lebourveau's livery stable, the Dinsmore, F. A. Spaulding's store, Perry & Porter's store. There was also a telegraph to the agent's house. By January there were 13 instruments, by summer a need for a central exchange. By September the Walpole Telephone Exchange was organized with F. E. Hawks manager, George E. Sherman secretary, F. A. Spaulding treasurer, and T. H. Hastings, H. A. Perry, W. W. Porter and F. A. Spaulding executive committee. Members were assessed two dollars each to meet expenses and repairs. In May 1899 the organization took steps to establish a central office, the system being overtaxed. It was voted to limit the lines to five parties to increase the hearing capacity and reduce the number of bells to which one had to listen.

In January 1904 the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company completed the work of setting a new line of poles from the depot to the village and renewing the wires attached to the trees on Main Street.

On the death of President Garfield in 1881 all business was suspended in Walpole, the buildings were hung with crepe and the national colors; the Democratic flag, heavily draped, was hung from the Republican staff, the bells were tolled and a memorial service was held at the town hall with Hon. Henry E. Howland giving the address.

This was a period of attempts to change the old custom of keeping the village stores open through the evenings. In 1881 the stores were closed every Wednesday evening during the winter. In October 1882 "George P. Porter and M. H. Gorham refuse to enter into an agreement to close their stores every Wednesday at 6 P.M. It has become common practice to close one evening each week during the winter season. There are in every community some men who prefer to sit about warm stoves, toast their shins and gossip rather than enjoy a quiet evening with their families at home. No doubt the hotel proprietor will be glad to have them accommodated by Porter and Gorham." In 1885 agreement had been reached, and by 1889 the stores were closing at eight every evening except Saturday.

In 1883 there were tennis matches on the Common, in 1884 there were complaints that the baseball players there were too noisy and profane. The town had passed an article prohibiting cannon firing and circus exhibitions on the Common. The suggestion was made that the town buy Dwinell's Island for the baseball clubs. In March 1887 the town voted with a good majority to prohibit ball playing and to discontinue the roads across the Common. In May, when George Jennison was harrowing the Common, a bolt fell out of the harrow and his horses, a young and frisky pair, went off without it, jerking Jennison off the ground. They dashed up Depot Street (Westminster) and through the Square, finally were brought up in the ox sling at Charles Roundy's blacksmith shop.

"This usually quiet village was stirred last Sunday morning (Dec. 9, 1883) by a burglary committed in our very midst sometime during the night. On Saturday three suspicious persons, that is strangers, were seen in the village acting strangely. . . . The first irregularity was noticed by Fred Lebourveau a little after seven Sunday morning who had occasion to enter his blacksmith shop, when he missed a bit-stock; further investigation showed that a bit and steel punch had also been taken. These facts were told to Oscar W. Rogers who was immediately suspicious of wrongdoing. He went at once to examine the door of the Savings Bank. He found it O.K., but on his way back he noticed chips at the door of C. C. Davis' drug store; the lock had been removed by boring and a steel punch. Mr. Davis was notified. He found that his safe had been opened—\$55 in cash and \$7000 in securities missing. He went at once to Bellows Falls and spread the alarm by telephone to Greenfield, Springfield, etc. On Monday a telegram from Hartford, Conn. 'We have arrested your man, come at once.' The thieves had entered the blacksmith shop through a window, leaving marks of long, box-toed shoes in the soft earth."



In April 1884 there was a meeting of fifty farmers to discuss establishment of a creamery in Walpole, cost to be about \$3500. Mr. Sadd from Connecticut was there to present the plan, his state being the first to adopt the creamery with one established at Farmington in 1871. A creamery would be an innovation in a neighborhood of old and new fashioned churns, scores of milk cans, female elbow-grease, and in many families butter worse than oleomargarine, strong enough to walk without being carried, and salt enough to remind one of Lot's wife. Creamery butter was selling for 35-45¢, dairy about 25¢ per pound. On Sept. 10, 1888, a creamery was opened in Westminster, with a large amount of Walpole capital.

In 1885 Frank Spaulding was leader and conductor of the Brass Band, Charles B. Hale secretary, Albert C. Dickey treasurer. There were 23 members. In 1887 the band sponsored a series of stereopticon lectures by Dr. Hendrickson to raise funds. In 1889 they disbanded and the stand in the Square was removed. They found it impossible to maintain a brass band in a small village where the members lived too far apart to get together for practice. In 1903 F. E. Hawks organized a brass band with 18 members. They gave a concert to raise money for uniforms.

In June 1886 the remodelling of the town hall had begun. On the Common were stacked old lumber, doors, posts, mouldings, many of which were taken as souvenirs. Nothing remained of the building but the bare walls which were moved 18 feet to the north. During these alterations there was no lock-up. A citizen was arrested for being too hilarious and was locked in Room #20 on the third floor of the Dinsmore. He climbed out the window and escaped. It was then decided to use a box stall in the hotel stable.

The town hall was reopened January 27, 1887 with a band, the Choral Union, Frederick N. Knapp as speaker, and Maynard & Wheeler's Orchestra providing the program, followed by dancing. There were nearly 1000 present. Private parties placed a new upright piano in the hall.

In 1886 there was complaint of too many overhanging branches along the highways, breaking and stealing whips, knocking off hats, scratching buggy tops, giving a shower after a rain. The pines and hemlocks locked branches over the roads which were also narrowed by alder, elder, sumac, maple, scrub oak, apple.

On May 4, 1887 a Village Improvement Society was organized with Josiah G. Bellows president, C. R. Crowell and E. K. Seabury vice presidents, C. C. Davis secretary. The women were particularly active in the

work. The Common received a great deal of attention from the group. The dump was moved from Turnpike Street near the old wheelwright shop to the bank south of Dennis Griffin's tobacco field (site of high school now). The Ravine was made more attractive and more accessible. The roads were named and marked.

In January 1888 there was a bad storm and the roads were in wretched condition, but in March "The storm last week was too much for our reportorial enterprise. We were unable to get to the post office. The blockade in our neighborhood was complete, in some parts of the town not raised until Saturday. Two or three small houses were buried nearly out of sight. Travel now is by systems of canals. No one has ever seen anything like it." This was the Blizzard of '88.

#### DECADE 1890-1900

In late September "the library committee and a few others met with Hudson E. Bridge who disclosed his plans to erect a one-story building of native stone, completely cellared and comprising three rooms, to be presented to the town for a library and reading room purposes. This meeting was called because the committee was planning to move from the present inconvenient quarters to Howard Hall. There are now nearly 4000 volumes. Mr. Bridge has purchased the Buffum Block and lot adjoining, with additional land of George R. Jennison, the site of the birthplace of his father, to whose memory he proposes to erect the building. The building in which his father was born is now located on High Street, owned by Mrs. Caleb Farnam."

The Union Magazine Club voted to give its magazines to the library for its reading room—*The Forum*, *Popular Science*, *Eclectic*, *Nineteenth Century*, *Harpers'*, *Scribners'*, *Century*.

In April 1894 there was a bad fire in the woods near Drewsville. The fire started south of the brewery and spread over several hundred acres. About the middle of the forenoon H. B. Lovell, owner of the land which at that time was being cut off, heard of the fire. When he reached the scene he found already a wall of fire travelling rapidly toward Drewsville. With three men he battled it until noon, but found they could not hold it. At their call for help one hundred men responded and set back fires. The breeze drove the fire on to the edge of the woods near the village, where it was checked.

In April 1895 the river was the highest since 1862 but not bad in Walpole. The Fitchburg trains continued to run, depositing passengers at Bellows Falls with no way out. The high water was caused by rain and



melting snow. It rained all day Saturday, the 13th, continued to Monday morning.

There was danger from logs upstream—Woodsville and in the White River. About 1,000,000 ft. were lost from Woodsville. Probably three-quarters were lodged along banks and secured in main drive later. Connecticut River Lumber Company lost about 3,000,000 ft. through breaking of booms near head of river. Water was high in Bellows Falls. Much property was salvaged from the eddy by going out in boats, hitching a rope to logs, etc., horses pulling them out.

Above the dam all the new piers of the Fall Mountain Paper Company, extra high, were covered, some tipped over and washed away. Boat houses which had been hauled up onto the North Walpole shore in the fall were afloat by Sunday afternoon, anchored by ropes.

Crowds of sightseers wandered around all Sunday night. "The sight of the water dashing over the falls near the toll bridge, and of the rapids below the bridge . . . was likened by many to the rapids below the falls at Niagara. The big rock in the middle of the river opposite the Fall Mt. office, that has never before been covered during a flood, was hid from sight completely and waves dashed over it and were tossed 50 ft. in the air.

"Carl Butter, a German employed at Vt. Farm Machinery Company went down to the brewery at Cold River Sunday to visit some friends and was unable to get back that night because of the water coming over the roadway of the bridge. He waited till morning, and as matters were getting worse, he stripped off all his clothes, tied them in a bundle and swam across amid the cheers of a crowd of both sexes. . . .

"During the highest of the water a stream poured through the west abutment of the toll bridge and it was thought for a time that there was danger of it being weakened; but so far as is known the water flowed between the heavy granite blocks without damaging them. . . .

"Referring to the high water, Moses Miller of Bellows Falls, Vt., remembers nearly every flood from the time of Noah. . . . He was about 7 years old at the time of the flood of 1828 when the water was about the same height. . . . He also remembers the flood of 1842 . . . about same height . . . and 1862 . . . 2 ft. higher. . . .

"The water on the dam late last night was about 121½ ft. deep and falling slowly. . . ."

Hundreds of people thronged about Westminster bridge, fearing for its safety, "When one of the big log piers from above the Falls came moving along with great power, all held their breaths as it barely passed

under the bridge on east side where the bridge was higher. Mr. Gilbert's large plant of shops and buildings were surrounded by water on the Westminster side. . . . A newly constructed raft, which nobody could control, gave a scare to two or three adventurers, taking them down the river about 2 miles to Grout's station where by some freak of fortune they got off in safety and telephoned their good luck back to anxious friends. Fred Graves, occupying a river farm, had to remove his stock and family, his buildings being entirely surrounded by water, and his property considerably damaged. John P. Holmes had to move his family into the upper rooms of his house."

There have been many travelling companies in and out of Walpole through the years, among which we might mention the Phila May Company which came several times; Guy Brothers' Minstrels, whose advance agent lived in Walpole, and various Uncle Tom's Cabin troupes. In 1899 "The Uncle Tom's Cabin troupe who gave a tent show here Wednesday evening is reported as not half bad after all, although the street parade at high noon hardly gave promise of anything particularly juicy. It consisted, mostly, of a few gorgeous individuals of the cakewalk variety; some sorry looking steeds that, if not grown white in a single night, had, during years of honorable service; and several friendly looking bloodhounds, who wagged along as if life were a joke and they had no idea of making a meal now and then off stray Topsyies, Evas, Uncle Toms and their ilk. But then, the music was good of its kind, the numerous little donkeys trotted on as if unlimited thistles were in view, banners waved, the small boys cheered and qu'avez vous? People in a country village are easily amused."

"Apropos of the above sentiment a hawker of small wares proved another drawing card on Thursday evening and quite a crowd collected in the square at the behest of gong and bell and flaring light. A trained dog was exhibited who performed quite clever tricks. He was a knowing dog, for when asked which he would rather do, die or get drunk, he quietly laid down and died without a murmur, having apparently heard that Walpole had passed into history as a 'dry' town. In some other town, Westminster for instance, the choice might have been different. The glib tongued owner of this phenomenon then held forth with joke and story to more readily effect his sales, which we are told, however, were not extensive."

Moving pictures were beginning to be seen in Walpole. In 1898 "The Kinetoscope represented many amusing scenes as well as several wonderful ones. The cavalry passing in review, the express train, the sleighing



in Central Park, the watermelon contest and others might be mentioned. One pretty scene was feeding the doves, and a very realistic one was the pillow fight among the seminary girls. The graphophone reproduced vocal and instrumental solos, band music, etc., and also Robert Ingersoll's speech on Napoleon. Perhaps the best of these was the U.S. Marine Band and a cornet solo "When the Swallows Homeward Fly." The latter was very distinct and a pleasure to hear. Take it all around, the program was unique and well worth the price of admission. The Ladies' Aid Society under whose auspices the entertainment was given netted \$10."

In May 1900 there were Edison's moving pictures in the town hall, views of Philippine and South African wars a specialty. In 1909 there were 200 people present at an exhibition of moving pictures at the town hall, but in 1911 we note "There was poor attendance at Hadley's moving pictures at the town hall." The subject was travel in foreign lands. For some time movies were shown at the Unitarian Parish House. Local pianists (Gladys Metcalf, Esther Williams, etc.) furnished the accompaniment for the shows which were otherwise silent.

In 1898 "The topic of war was overshadowed by the failure of the Cheshire County Mutual Insurance Company. Established in 1825, it was considered as safe as the hills. Many were bitter." In July Santiago's surrender was celebrated by the firing of cannon crackers in the square on Thursday, and the following Monday with a parade, fireworks, bonfire, orchestra music. By 9:30 P.M. all the lights were out. Then cannon reverberated for sometime and finally exploded. No one was hurt except Judge Bellows' cow in an adjoining field. She was struck and killed by a flying missile. Money for the celebration was procured by subscription, but this last episode was unforeseen.

In October 1897 "A horseless carriage containing three men passed through here on Monday, taking the River Road to Keene and travelling we are told at the rate of 12 miles per hour. This method of locomotion is quite a novelty in this vicinity at least and to the favored few who witnessed the sight afforded ample subject for conversation."

In August 1902 "There was a serious accident at Mrs. Charlotte Burt's. Mr. & Mrs. Chandler had come to call and hitched their horse at a post. The horse became frightened by the invention of Satan. Mr. Chandler tried to calm the horse; Mrs. Chandler tried, but he reared, throwing her down and stepping on her. Mrs. Burt rushed to her aid. The horse after striking her with his knees turned and ran. He was caught just beyond the bridge by Messrs. Burt, Murray and Mitchell." By 1906 automobiles

became so common and so speedy that signs had to be put up to guide and limit speed.

Hon. T. N. Hastings drove his auto home from Boston, 110 miles, in four and one quarter hours in 1904. In 1912 Dr. Craig had the local Ford agency. In April he had sold five cars: four-passenger cars to H. A. Perry, Frank Spaulding and Edgar Wells; two-passenger cars to Mr. Sturtevant and Roy Mullen. Warren Knowlton then had a Metz which he said could beat any car for speed, comfort and economy. Mrs. Mullen and Mrs. Shackley obtained their drivers' licenses. In August Mrs. Shackley was going at a good rate of speed to "make" a pitch. There was a sharp curve, then downgrade. She skidded and toppled over into the ditch. Dr. Craig helped Mr. Shackley bring the car home and on the way ran into a stone post by the Unitarian Church.

In 1913 a large truck carried pine lumber from South Acworth to Cold River, about 4000 feet to a load, the first truck of its kind ever seen in this vicinity.

In 1914 C. W. Morse had a 400 gallon gasoline tank installed in front of his new store for the accommodation of the public. Later there was excitement in the Square one evening when an out-of-town auto caught fire. In filling the gas tank some was spilled and in lighting the tail light it caught fire. Arthur Davis put it out promptly with an extinguisher.

Some accidents resulted in making adjustments to the new vehicles. H. A. Perry forgot to set his brakes, was run over when he tried to crank it. Russell Spaulding and Louis Ballam broke their arms cranking autos. Henry Kilburn drove around a curve too fast, turned turtle.

In 1913 Edgar Wells added a limousine to his garage for the accommodation of his customers.

In July 1899 an Old Home Week Association was formed with Thomas N. Hastings president; Charles H. Barnes, Dr. A. P. Richardson and Patrick Griffin vice presidents; Thomas B. Peck secretary; Josiah G. Bel- lows treasurer; Edwin Guild, Edwin K. Seabury and Ira W. Ramsay executive committee. Three hundred and fifty-eight invitations were sent out, 1200 people attended the Old Home Day which was held August 30 at the Pines in Copley Amory's pasture on the Drewsville Road, not far from the site of the massacre of Flint and Twitchell. For those who did not have their own transportation Fred O. Smalley ran a barge from the village, charging 10 cents for each passenger. There were also livery carriages.

After the basket picnic there was a program of music, singing and addresses. Those taking part were Rev. Frank W. Pratt, Hon. T. N. Hast-



ings, Hon. Josiah G. Bellows, Rev. John Bartow, Prof. Franklin W. Hooper, Rev. William Channing Brown, Judge Henry Howland, Charles H. Barnes, Rev. E. A. Keep.

The Bellows Falls Band gave a concert in the Square before the picnic and played during the festivities. There were also many family gatherings.

For a few years there were annual Old Home Days, but more recently the affair has been combined with other events of note and has been held at less frequent intervals.

#### DECADE 1900-1910

In 1900 Copley Amory erected a large stone watering trough at the Homestead Farm with this inscription, "Traveller remember here lived Col. Benjamin Bellows, founder of Walpole, from 1750 until his death in 1777. His son, Honorable Thomas Bellows, a distinguished citizen who died 1848, his grandson, Reverend Thomas Bellows who died 1890, and that they owned and tilled this farm 138 years."

In April 1895 a freshet attracted crowds of spectators. At Cold River Freddy Tole used a boat to carry foot passengers and the beer.

In October 1901 the R.F.D. route was laid out: south 1.5 miles to Sumner S. Watkins corner; southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile to Josiah Graves; southeast  $\frac{3}{16}$  mile to Charles S. Hawks; northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile to #9; southeast  $\frac{3}{8}$  mile to Fred H. Booth corner; northeast  $1\frac{3}{16}$  mile to Walter Moody; south  $1\frac{3}{8}$  mile to David Mann;  $1\frac{3}{8}$  mile to Wesley C. Foster to Edward S. Taggard corner; southwest  $\frac{3}{8}$  mile to Cyrus Church; southwest  $\frac{3}{8}$  mile to F. A. Seward; southwest  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to John Blanchard; northwest 1 mile to Albert A. Gilson; southwest  $\frac{5}{8}$  mile to Waldo Burt corner; postoffice. In the afternoon the carrier was to proceed southeast 1.5 miles to George Chickering; northeast  $\frac{5}{6}$  mile to W. H. Fletcher; northwest  $\frac{5}{6}$  mile to #4 and back to Fletcher; east  $2\frac{3}{8}$  miles to Lewis Whitney corner; northwest  $2\frac{5}{8}$  miles to Charles Garrity corner; west  $\frac{7}{8}$  mile to Hatch corner; south  $2\frac{7}{8}$  miles to postoffice. Total  $25\frac{3}{16}$  miles; 122 houses; population 512. It was a big improvement over harnessing a tired horse to go to the post office. Dennis G. Phelan, carrier, 1902.

June 1, 1938 the post office was raised to second class.

In 1903 the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the town was combined with the Old Home Day (4th) August 18, unlike previous years, on the Common. A band stand was erected at the north end of the Common. The exercises opened at 9:15 with music by the Walpole brass band, and an outdoor basketball game between Walpole and Putney, the first ever

witnessed by many of the crowd. At 11 there was a speaking program in the town hall with some 700 people in attendance, a large number obliged to stand. A quartet including Mrs. Louis R. Lincoln, Misses Nellie B. Banning, Lizzie M. Maynard and Rebecca L. Hooper sang several selections. The main features of the program were an historical address by Prof. Franklin W. Hooper and an address by Judge Henry E. Howland of New York. At noon some returned to their homes, some picnicked on the Common and others in the lower town hall. Dinner was served to the basketball team from Putney, the baseball team from Alstead and other guests. At 2:30 the athletic contest began with a crowd of 1000 spectators on settees and in carriages drawn up around the Common. The sports closed with a baseball game between Walpole and Alstead on Miss Mason's field, Walpole winning 9-8.

The stores in the square and the houses on Main Street were decorated, also around the Common, with flags and bunting. The Common looked like a bit of fairyland during the band concert in the evening with many Chinese lanterns and fireworks, red and green fires, rockets, mines and Roman candles. Following the concert the band furnished music for dancing in the town hall.

Anecdote from Howland address: "There is a tradition that at one time Rev. Timothy Dwight, president of Yale was passing through Walpole. There being no room for him at the tavern, Joseph Dennie shared his room. Dr. Dwight in the course of conversation inquired if Dennie was still publishing the *Farmers' Museum* in Walpole, stating that he considered him a brilliant man and a fascinating writer, but that his habits of conviviality would, in his opinion, interfere with his success in life. Dennie defended his character and said to the doctor that Mr. Dennie's habits were commendable and all that could be desired. The doctor persisting in his original statement, Dennie tried another tack and asked if he knew Dr. Timothy Dwight of New Haven. Receiving an affirmative answer, he said that he respected him most highly as a scholar and an instructor of youth, but that he considered it a pity that he was such a bigot and made so little allowance for the opinions of others, and pressed his accusations with considerable force. The doctor finally got angry and said: "Do you know who I am, sir? I am Timothy Dwight myself," to which Dennie replied, "and I am Joe Dennie."

The following are excerpts from the Howland address: "Si Bellows was dignified, benevolent, hospitable, high minded."

"Squire Tom Bellows, impulsive and outspoken 'in wit a man, simplicity a child', the terror of all the spinsters in town for he knew their



ages and never hesitated to express his interest in them by telling them in company. The quaintness of his speech was accented by his stammer, which he said never served him a good turn but once, when he was trying to fix the price of a horse he was selling for \$60 and before he could get it out the man offered him \$100."

"Jacob N. Knapp, in dignified retirement, charming, witty, instructive, his advocacy of any measure in town meeting equivalent to its adoption."

"Seth Hunt, a regular Marco Polo, crossed the ocean 14 times in sailing vessels, his musical ear offended by the aimless, shrill whistle of small boys which he reproved in no measured terms, but took the greatest interest in all their games, furnished skeins of twine without limit for their kites."

"Dr. Morse, the wise, sagacious, outwardly austere, kind at heart."

"Dr. Kittredge, gentle and friendly physician."

"Judge Vose always attired in a dress coat, the regulation dress of the old-fashioned lawyer, learned in law, but modest and shy in expounding it."

"Benjamin Grant, perfect type of the English squire, planted the shade trees in the village."

"William Ruggles, tall, straight, the old town clerk whose notices of intended marriages posted in the church door were such entertaining reading, a man of such precision of speech that, when asked at the sewing society meeting if he would have some cake, would reply, 'a fraction of a portion, if you please,' and upon whom we would steal from behind and give a sudden greeting to see him jump up in the air like an acrobatic dancing master, turn a double pirouette, and facing us bow with great curtesy and return the greeting."

"Bill Ramsay who always had the best oxen in town and at the town fair took the palm. He would let the other teams draw stone on a stone boat until they came to a standstill and then would hitch on his yoke of Durhams, which was his favorite breed, increase the load by fifty pounds or so, and then by adjuration and objuration induce the team to haul the load a rod beyond the best mark yet, and then lean on his team in triumph. After one of these trials a neighbor said to him, 'That's a spry team of yours, Bill.' 'Spry,' he replied, 'chain lightning lingers alongside of 'em.' "

"The cheery, resonant voices of Thomas G. Wells and his brother Edwin, and of Major Britton, echoing across the street on summer afternoons in friendly challenge when business was at an end, and the row of chairs set out with faithful care by Mr. Britton on the piazza of his

store over night for the early morning wayfarer, and the rival party gatherings of the representatives of the two great parties at his store and Mr. Buffum's respectively, are pleasant incidents to remember."

March 1905 at town meeting "the selectmen had accepted the new underpasses at North Walpole, but there was considerable dissatisfaction. Discussion was quite interesting, but at no time did the debate wax hot, since O'Neil, the silver-tongued orator of the North End, was confined at home by an attack of grippe. A special train with three cars took 200 from North Walpole to town meeting. Several resolutions roasting the retiring selectmen were introduced and adopted. One, probably omitted by oversight, provided that the members should be hanged on Walpole Common as a warning to their successors in office. If the Sullivan County Railroad Company could have been corralled in the center of the hall, there wouldn't have been enough left for a decent burial. P. E. Griffin was as bland and debonair as ever. He didn't look half the villain some of his political enemies pictured him. T. B. Peck was the financier of the occasion. His luminous presentation of the town's needs made the taxpayers almost glad for the privilege of being taxed. James Barrett proposed overpasses at Riley's and Tucker Bridge crossing, but the cost was too many thousand to be popular. 'Albion's Special' took down about 25 men, mostly employees of the Sullivan County Railroad. The railroad is planning to establish a pumping station near the east end of the new bridge, to pipe the water to Church Street to the present tank house."

In 1911 the town took to court the matter of lighting the subways under the railroad at North Walpole. The selectmen had agreed to light and continued paying the bill even though the town had repudiated it at town meeting.

In November 1904 a movement was started to organize an Arts & Crafts Association, 25 attending the first meeting at the library. In December an exhibition was held at the Walpole Inn, with products for sale, and lectures. In March the association "bought an ancient hand loom to weave rugs and rag carpet, setting it up at Mrs. B. E. Webster's house. This reminded the older citizens of the days when Miss Margaret McLaughlin supported herself by weaving rag carpets at her cottage on the River Road." The receipts in 1906 amounted to \$1,214.13. The sales room opened again in 1907, 75 members.

In 1905 the new drinking fountain, the gift of Charles P. Howland in memory of Henry E. Howland, was erected in the Square, for man, horse and dog. In later years the Garden Club filled the fountain with pine at Christmas (1948). It is now planted with flowers in the summer.



In 1909 "Canterbury Pilgrims" by Percy MacKaye was presented on the Common with 1000 present, among them Gov. Quimby. They came by special train and a hundred autos. Prof. Franklin Hooper promoted the production in connection with the Summer Lecture series. There were thirty from away in the cast and as many more from Walpole. The stage was set up at the south end of the Common. All could see the performance, but only about half could hear. The author was spending the summer in Cornish, his wife being descended from an old Walpole family. Total receipts \$880, expenses \$690.79.

#### DECADE 1910-1920

In May 1910 a fire at North Walpole started, probably from a defective chimney, in William Duffy's (Dombroski's) bakery at nine o'clock in the evening. Emil Proppe, baker, had just prepared the ovens for baking by adding a large supply of coal. The bakery was in the basement, grocery store on the first floor and Martin Gooske family upstairs. The North Walpole firemen responded with the hand tub, but realizing its inadequacy, called Bellows Falls. The Combination Wagon made a record trip, followed by the hook and ladder. In attempting to get the steamer out of the station, the pole broke and had to be replaced. Then there was difficulty getting horses until after the fire was out. The flames had spread rapidly, Patrick Ratchford's cottage caught, and the family got out with nothing but an old trunk. Across the street the houses of Robert Howard and Jerry Wolfe caught, but the fire was checked. The slate roof on Daniel Connors' cottage saved that from the flying sparks. At the rear of Duffy's house three horses were removed; but the ice-house burned. Low hanging clouds reflected the fire, as bright as day, a solid wall of flame rising high into the sky. There were hundreds of spectators who were scared when Duffy's oil tank exploded. The Duffys saved only account books. By midnight the fire was all out, and Center Street residents breathed freely again.

In May 1910 there were no men at the Improvement Society meeting, only women. Next day, in every kind of costume and with a great variety of tools, they went to the dump and burned and cleaned it up. After that the men volunteered.

In December 1910 at North Walpole the two tenement houses of Dennis Brennan on Center Street burned. The fire was discovered by Miss Eva F. Sheridan at 10:15 Monday night, on her way home from skating on the river. The Bellows Falls Combination #1 was called; the North Walpole firemen rushed their hand tub to the reservoir on Center Street

at Haley's. In priming the pump, the water froze, rendering the tub practically useless. Hose lines were strung down Center Street, men holding the nozzles for water that never came. There was no water to recharge #1, so it was sent back to the Falls. At 10:45 the alarm sounded at the square and the Bellows Falls Department crossed the bridge. The steamer went down Merchant Street to the reservoir at Buckley's. The suction pipe was thrown in, but not being sufficiently immersed, it sucked air, breaking the vacuum in the pump. Water was needed for the boiler of the steamer, but none was to be had; and it was over 45 minutes before the water had been secured to get up steam. The fire had become a roaring furnace and spread across the alley to the next house. Finally a hose was laid from a hydrant on Rockingham Street but the water froze at the couplings, bursting two sections. At last a stream of water came, in time to wet down the nearby houses blistered by heat. Saved were the Crescent Bottling Company's old stand, property of D. H. Cray, and the Red Cross Pharmacy building on Center Street, the Griffin house occupied by Nicola Fiore, and the Barrett house and stores on Merchant Street. The house where the fire started was occupied by two families, Joseph Green and Mrs. Helen Bellinsky. In the larger house, corner of Center and Merchant Streets, there were in the basement: storerooms for Brennan and James Barrett; Michael Andorea's barber shop; Andorea and Nicolas Battaglia families.

December 1910—"About twenty years ago the play 'The Peak Sisters' was given to raise money for a new curtain for the town hall. The money was put at interest, and now the Footlights (drama group) is installing the curtain and three sets of scenery."

Before 1911 it had been necessary to haul hay down to the depot to be weighed. In that year of 1911 the Humane Society installed a new set of public scales at the rear of J. A. Weber's store to save the heavy haul up the hill from the depot. One half of the revenue was to go the society, the other to the weigher. The society had been organized in 1904.

In late March 1913 the water rose six to seven feet on the River Road north and south of the village and carried away the plank from the bridge near Fred Smalley's (#241). Knowlton and Dwinell had to move out of their house. Wright on the Holmes' place (#248) had to move some of his stock since there was four feet of water in one of his barns. Smalley had to move all his horses from his barns on the River Road.

In 1916 the one and one-half story house on Main Street, North Walpole, owned by Dennis Brennan, occupied by Patrick Kenney and Mrs. Mary Murray, burned from a defective chimney. "A line of hose was



laid from hand tub which drew water from the Main Street reservoir beyond D. W. Riley & Company saloon. The white elephant, known as the steamer, came but couldn't get to work. The fire had burned in the chimney all day, finally broke out. The families saved most of their goods. This was the second oldest cottage in the village, having been the farm house of Levi Chapin."

In August 1914 Germany attacked western Europe and started what we now call World War I. In Walpole there began to be stirrings among the women to be *doing* something. "Mrs. Charles P. Howland held a meeting at her home, at which Mrs. Hand of Cornish spoke on *Woman's Place in the Community*. There was talk of starting a Woman's Club, to help the Red Cross raise money, and to hold sewing meetings at the various parish houses. In September Mrs. Howland was in charge of a Red Cross tag day, with a persistent group of girls. They had an elaborate booth in front of the library with vegetables, fruits and preserves. Everything living or moving was tagged, the net proceeds \$300." In October Miss Frances Howland went to France as a Red Cross nurse.

Work centers were set up in the parish houses, the women bringing their scissors, needles and thimbles. They also did sewing and knitting at home. Early in the war the War Relief Society was formed. In April 1917 the society reported having sent abroad since July 1, 1916, 3,570 articles, \$25 worth gauze and absorbent cotton, 40 comfort bags to France, 16 to the Texas border; to children of the devastated areas of France 225 new articles of clothing, 76 second hand; to American Navy League at Charlestown 13 articles. Meetings were held every Thursday afternoon at the Congregational parlors.

In January 1919 the American Red Cross local report was as follows: Receipts \$2,472.22, Expenditures \$2,276.52; finished articles shipped, 16,883 surgical dressings, 238 hospital garments, 35 infant layettes (33 articles each), 270 children's garments, 5 knitted afghans, 303 sweaters, 561 socks, 128 other knitted articles, 582 articles of clothing for Belgian Relief, 115 articles to Duryea War Relief of Paris, 566 pounds fruit pits and nut shells (for carbon for gas masks), 267 garments for Committee for Protection of Children of the Frontier. There was a special consignment of knitted stockings and mittens by the Neighborhood Club.

In April 1917 the Selectmen appointed the following committees: Public Safety; W. I. Corbett, W. H. Kiniry, C. M. Holden, C. H. Barnes, F. A. Spaulding—Food Supply and Production; F. D. Rodenbush, W. J. King, James Barrett—Agriculture; F. A. Ramsay, C. T. Seward, F. O. Smalley.

Arthur P. Davis was appointed Labor Agent. F. A. Spaulding was appointed Recruiting Officer. In 1918 George L. Houghton was appointed Agent for Food Administration to give information on food conservation.

The Woman's Council of National Defense registered the amounts of white flour and sugar in the possession of householders. A customer was allowed to buy  $\frac{1}{4}$  bbl. flour at a time, to be matched with substitute. Canning sugar was available on filling out blanks for the amount needed and filing with the local food commissioner. Housekeepers were warned to use their canning sugar for that purpose only. In 1916 the new County Home Demonstration Agent was giving instruction in pressure cooker canning, meat savers, use of milk, use of the fireless cooker. There was also a shortage of coal.

In April 1917, after the United States entered the war, men from Walpole began to enlist, first in the New Hampshire National Guard unit at Keene. June 5, 1917, all men 21 to 30 years of age were required to enroll at the town hall. The draft went into effect in August 1917.

In July 1917 all men were requested to join the military drill on the Common every Tuesday and Thursday evening. In August a Home Guard unit was organized with Capt. Arthur Sawyer, Lt. James E. Hooper, Secretary E. J. Best, Treasurer F. A. Spaulding. During the summer Charles Bellows drilled the Walpole, North Walpole and Alstead men, then returned to New York.

In May 1917 the first Liberty Loan went over the top in Walpole, \$37,150 subscribed. During the last week the town bell was rung at 9 P.M. each day, one stroke less as the week progressed, as a reminder of the close of the campaign. The bond issues continued at six month intervals for the duration, Walpole making a good showing.

In June 1917 the town hall was struck by lightning and burned. The new town hall was dedicated Friday, June 21, 1918, the program savoring of the times. Charles H. Barnes presided, Weeden's nine piece orchestra furnished music; Rev. L. W. Sanford offered prayer and gave the address of welcome; a chorus sang *God Be With Our Boys*; Judge O'Brien of Bellows Falls spoke on *War and America's Part in the Great Struggle*; F. D. Rodenbush sang a solo; Charles P. Howland gave an address taken up with the war and amusing stories; Miss Nancy Mitchell sang a solo; Rev. G. H. Megathlin spoke briefly on the Chautauqua which was to open a five day course in the town hall on Monday; Mr. Barnes spoke on the War Savings Stamp drive commencing the following Tuesday; all sang *America*; there was dancing until early morning. Plans for the new hall were obtained through the generosity of Miss Fanny Mason. James



Purdon of Boston was the architect, Morrison & Davis of Salem, Mass. contractors, T. Carl Davis, a native of Walpole, in charge of construction. The building committee included Fred O. Smalley chairman, Willie G. Leonard, Edward M. Holden, and Selectmen Ira W. Ramsay, George W. Kingsbury, William Y. Corbett.

In September 1918 there was a serious influenza epidemic, although there was very little written about it in the local items. The schools were closed for three weeks.

November 11, 1918 the Armistice was signed with Germany, ending the war. Early in 1919 the men began to come home from France, Maxwell Smalley the first discharged. Late the following fall the D.A.R. entertained the soldiers who had returned at a banquet and dance. After the banquet it was decided to establish an American Legion post in Walpole.

#### DECADE 1920-1930

This was a particularly stormy decade. In February 1920 there was a bad storm for two days followed by high wind, making impassable roads which were finally plowed and rolled. Some farmers were unable to ship milk for a week. Homer L. Atkins' barn and shed roofs collapsed under the snow. Again in March there were no trains or RFD for two days. In January 1922 there was a bad storm, the school teams practically having to break the roads and all were late, the one from the Valley arriving about 11 A.M. Later the same month, January 22, Sunday, a terrific gale drifted the snow six feet deep in many places. When the school barge went through the street on Monday morning, it was at an angle of 45 degrees, crawling through the drifts, the children clinging to the top side to keep from rolling out. The snow and cold weather made motoring difficult, the Square looked like old times with 18 horses tied to the hitching posts. In March the new Keene Road was so drifted and filled with cradle holes that traffic was diverted to the River Road. The RFD carrier used the County Road instead.

In April the Connecticut rose to the greatest height in 28 years. The road from the bridge to Westminster was 5 feet under water. The water rose 6 ft. in 15 minutes, all over the Westminster meadows. August 1 there was a bad hail storm which destroyed many gardens and the Angier and Griffin tobacco crops. In October a heavy frost damaged the winter apples before they were picked, Everett Rhodes losing 50-75 bbls.

In March 1923 nature provided an unusual spectacle with a snow squall along with a gorgeous sunset, the sun appearing like a glowing ball of fire, causing a luminous glow through the swirling snow. In the

evening there were brilliant northern lights. Late that fall the mud was unusually bad, up to the hubs on the River Road. Trucks drawing stone for the new Keene Road cut up the hill roads badly.

In March 1924 Walpole caught the tail end of a blizzard and travellers had to take to the fields. The road to Bellows Falls was cleared and scraped by private subscription to make it passable for automobiles. In April the mud was again very bad. The car conveying the pall bearers for Mrs. George L. Hooper's funeral broke through the crust and sank into mud up to the gas tank. The bearers had to walk home, while other cars went another way. During a thunderstorm in April lightning struck a tree on the hill back of John Graves' house and set fire to a 4-ton stack of straw, a most spectacular fire. The next week there was a foot of heavy, wet snow.

In March 1925 there was an earthquake—"Stores shook and rocked so that the occupants were much alarmed and everyone ran out into the square and gathered into groups until the earth resumed its equilibrium. Miss Webster has an old fashioned door bell and the upheaval made the bell ring violently. At Mr. Bowman's house the clock started striking. People in the Red Mill Inn were very much frightened for the building is old and visibly swayed, while pictures and mirrors flew out from the walls and several said they heard ominous cracks, making them fear the inn would collapse. Those at the basketball game did not know there had been an earthquake until they got home, so they missed a bigger event than the game. Some were made dizzy and many felt the shock without realizing what they were experiencing, thinking some truck going by caused the vibration."

The story is told in Walpole that Village District meetings were not well attended at this time. In March of 1925 a few of the younger voters in a gay mood attended the meeting and by far outnumbered the "regulars". The names of three spinsters, Miss Ola A. Hubbard, Miss Emma J. Sabin and Miss Minnie L. Hathaway, not previously involved in politics, were placed in nomination and elected as commissioners. While it is said that little business was done in the following year, the record shows that Miss Hubbard was elected for a second term. Upon Miss Sabin's resignation after two months in office, the two incumbents appointed Miss Emily M. Jennison to fill the vacancy. It is believed that there is no relation between this and the preceding paragraph.

In February 1926 there was a 10-inch snow fall, cleared with a six horse roller, snowplow, tractor.

Thursday, November 3, 1927 water began to rise in the Connecticut at



Bellows Falls at 5 P.M., by November 4 10:30 A.M. was 20 feet above the dam, 6 inches higher than the record of 1888. The prediction was that it would continue to rise for 6 hours and in preparation the railroad bridge was weighted with loaded coal cars. The coffer dam recently damaged by high water was carried away. Railroad service was entirely suspended. On Saturday the river came over the bank at North Walpole by what is now Aumand's store washing away a dwelling; on through the old River Street railroad underpass, taking with it everything northeast of the Arch Bridge as far as Vine Street where it struck a ledge. The two houses on the west side of Vine Street were carried away.

Following is the report from Walpole Village—"Friday the rising water caused tense anxiety. About 7 A.M. the river began to overflow its banks, by nine the meadows were flooded; Cold River Bridge and the railroad bridge were submerged. All day long people thronged the river bank near the village bridge, watching. It was an awe-inspiring sight to see the madly dashing flood batter and swirl about the piers of the bridge, sweeping along great masses of debris and wreckage from the north. The waters rose to the floor of the bridge, and the Westminster end was under. Everyone felt that the bridge would go down, and it was cheering news on Saturday morning to hear that the structure held and still spanned the river.

"No communication could be had with Bellows Falls until Sunday. A washout at Winchenden, Mass., delayed trains and mail until late on Friday when a train was sent up from Keene. Several small bridges were carried away, the road below the Huntington Farm was impassable owing to the brook (Blanchard) overflowing and rising over the fence of the small bridge. The River Road was also so flooded that Walpole was isolated for a time. Barns and outbuildings on the Ward place were washed from their foundations and floated in the fields. There were no lights Thursday night to Saturday night. There was some damage to crops, but reports from Bellows Falls and North Walpole, and other devastated districts, and the flood at Westminster, made Walpole feel that she had been fortunate in escaping so lightly. The river rose five feet higher than the record mark on the barn at Meadow Farm."

Herman Woodward's greens plant in Westminster, employing 50, was damaged by the flood, some being removed to Walpole by truck and boat. Hubbards' had 25000 eggs hatching in their electric incubators and had to transfer them to hot water heat.

There were 150 staying at the Red Mill Inn on Friday and Saturday, being reporters, photographers from Pathé, Paramount, MGM, and Na-

tional Geographic, repairmen, and those who were marooned by the flood.

Sunday afternoon, July 28, 1929, a violent wind storm struck the south part of town. At the Burt place, occupied by Arthur Chickering, a large elm in the dooryard fell on the ell roof of the house and the end of the barn roof, crushing them; at the Ward place the southwest corner of the slate roof was damaged; on Aldrich Hill there was a tree across the road; a tree fell in the yard at the John Marshall place; many trees and silos were blown down.

During the winter of 1920 Unitarian Church services were held in the parish house. On the night of February 18th the church collapsed under the weight of snow, only the front wall and organ gallery left standing. The side walls fell outward and the roof fell toward the rear. There was no insurance. The 75-year-old clock, which had been striking only intermittently of late, was broken up. Mrs. Elizabeth Tobey gave a new one in memory of her mother, Mrs. Faxon. The organ, given in 1896 by George A. Stearns in memory of his father, was damaged but was restored January 1922. The new foundation was put in in October 1920 and reconstruction progressed. The bell was heard again on Easter Sunday 1922 after a silence of two years. The dedication service for the new church was held in September 1922 at the same time as the installation of the Rev. Robert Holt as pastor of the church. Mrs. Sue D. B. Flint gave the pews in memory of her husband; and Mrs. George Hooper gave the pulpit, reading desk, chancel cushions and carpet in memory of her husband. The first hymn sung was by Rev. John Nelson Bellows, used in the dedication of the third church building June 14, 1843. The second hymn sung was by John Adams Bellows for this dedication.

The Swarthmore Chautauqua was being held in the town hall in 1920, a five-day stand, as for the past two years. In 1921 it was held in a tent on the lot between the Episcopal Church and the Holland House. In September, because of insufficient funds, it was decided to engage the Radcliff Chautauqua for three days for 1922. The last mention of Chautauqua was in June 1922.

September 10, 1919, women had received the right to vote. In September 1920 there was a mass meeting at the town hall to welcome and instruct voters. Mrs. George P. Porter was the oldest woman (83) to vote in November; Daniel Smith the oldest man (93).

In October 1920 the women held a non-partisan meeting to discuss the League of Nations. In November Rev. Joseph C. Allen of Charlestown gave a series of talks on civil government at the library. During the



summer of 1925 a forum was formed at the Congregational Church to discuss great social and national issues of the day. In the fall there was a reading club organized which continued for several years.

September 24, 1920, the first town fair in 40 years was held. People in wagons and automobiles began to gather for the parade by 9 A.M., the crowd estimated at several thousand. Hudson Bridge and William Smalley of the committee led the parade, with C. J. McIlvaine as chief marshal, accompanied by Bellows Falls Band. Uncle Sam followed leading his little daughter as Young America. Then there came the school children (80-100); Walpole Post Loyal Legion four-horse carriage trimmed with flags and streamers, ladies and children riding, Captain Mousley and Lt. Sanford leading, with Legion men mounted, dressed in khaki; G.A.R. and Relief Corps in automobiles; Troop #1 Boy Scouts; Dr. and Mrs. Buffum in decorated auto; River Road Thimble Club's large float, four horses abreast; Gen. Tom Thumb coupe with Horace Davenport and Eveline McIlvaine; #10 Ladies' Club trimmed four-horse rig; George Ballam's farm display, yellow and green cart, children riding; Valley Fruit Farm's float, trimmed with asparagus, loaded with fruit; two darkies on a joy ride; four darkies in highly colored wagon representing just married and one year later; Metcalf and Houghton's display of groceries; Herbert H. Thompson's fruit farm display; N.P. Club's float trimmed with hemlock and mountain ash berries; C. E. Angier's tobacco farm and fruit display; Franklin sedan (Miss Daniels) noting suffrage victory; Walpole Minstrel band wagon; imitation of yacht in full sail; Telephone Exchange, girls in white wearing office instrument; Rexall Drug float; Maj. Chas. Bellows; State TB Clinic float; James Murray, junk dealer, well-trimmed float; Red Cross float (Mrs. Spaulding); Gates Garage, Bellows Falls; rubes, clowns, riders.

There was a dog show at the Wentworth with about 50 entries: hunters, collies, terriers, spaniels, Newfoundlands, shepherd dogs.

The poultry exhibit had ducks, turkeys, rabbits, Rocks, Wyandottes, Reds, Leghorns.

At the town hall there were the usual displays upstairs and down, with farm, craft, garden, antique, commercial, and style shows.

The Farm Bureau had white pine blister rust literature and demonstrations.

Mr. H. O. Woodward had a booth of Christmas greens; while the school had manual training, garden, and domestic science exhibits.

At the fair grounds near the depot there was a small display of cattle,

horses, sheep, swine; and there was a tractor exhibit on Miss Mason's field.

Sports were held on the Common with a ball game in the afternoon. In the baseball throwing contest Coddington was first, followed by Comstock, R. Fletcher. Other contests with winners were:

75 Yard Dash for Boys under 15: Erwin Fletcher, Everett Houghton, Clayton Gray.

Running Broad Jump for Boys under 15: E. Fletcher, R. Fletcher, S. Williams.

Running Broad Jump for Boys over 15: Erwin Mathers, Arthur Bundy, Albert Fletcher (Best jump 17 ft. 9 in.).

220 Yard Dash: R. Fletcher, W. Ramsay, Coddington.

50 Yard Dash for Girls under 15: Evelyn Christian, Rachel Long, Caroline Marsh.

50 Yard Dash for Girls over 15: Amy Houghton, Alice Damaziak, Ruth Long.

Pie-eating Contest: 7 Entries—Benny Warn, Lawrence Leach, George McCloud.

100 Yard Dash for Boys over 15: John Turcott, Arthur Bundy, Frank Ramsay.

High Jump for Boys under 15: William Ramsay, R. Fletcher, Comstock.

High Jump for Boys over 15: Morse, Chase, Wright.

During the early 1920s there were innumerable collections, lessening as time progressed: Annual Red Cross membership drive in the fall; April 1921 for famine sufferers in China \$181.78; May 1921 clothing for Near East; May 1921 Children's Fund for European Relief \$100.15; November 1921 Keene Hospital \$4,486 (151 had used the hospital since 1892, 3422 days service, many using the Lucke free bed); February 1928 quota \$200 for preserving Franconia Notch, raised \$250.

In May 1920 a fund was started for lighting the Christmas tree on the Common. It became the custom to sing carols around the lighted tree, with a community Christmas with gifts at the tree or the town hall, sometimes a service at the Congregational Church. The lighting of the tree was begun in 1914. In 1935 a new spruce was set at the north end of the Common. There was also a tree on the Common at Drewsville.

In 1921 a group of Walpole High School alumni (about 40) held a preliminary meeting looking toward formation of an alumni association. It was finally organized September 10 with Oliver Hubbard president,



Helen Kendrick vice president, Mrs. Reginald Cahalane secretary, Arthur P. Davis treasurer, Miss Ola Hubbard, Mrs. H. P. Stowell and Lawrence Holland executive committee. It came to be the custom to hold a banquet and dance in December, in 1921 extended to alternate years.

Saturday night supper dances on alternate weeks with Tuesday afternoon teas were the order at the Country Club on the new Keene Road. In July 1926 a special town meeting was called to authorize the leasing of part of the George L. Hooper estate to the Country Club, construction undertaken in August. In 1927 Reginald Cahalane took over the management.

In July 1921 there was a strike at the International Paper Company in Bellows Falls, the Champlain Realty Co. attempted to bring in strike breakers to get their logs out of the water. The strike breakers coming over the suspension bridge on a truck load of provisions were stopped and forced to turn back. The trucks were allowed to proceed without passengers. The Vermont State Guard was stationed in Bellows Falls, the Manchester police in North Walpole. At mass meetings at the Opera House and Russell Hall warnings were given against violence. In August, after things had quieted down but the strike had not been settled, 18,000 cords of the 20,000 cords of the pulp were floated down the river to Hinsdale by a crew of 50 men guarded by the Manchester police and the Vermont National Guard.

In August 1921 construction was started on the War Memorial at the north end of the Common, commemorating the men of Walpole, North Walpole and Drewsville who served in the World War, 117 names on the bronze tablet mounted on a foundation block of cobblestone. The D.A.R. had proposed the project and started the fund with money left over from the supper for returning soldiers. The town appropriated \$500. The unveiling and dedication took place in November. (In June 1939 the D.A.R. placed a cement bench near the memorial evergreen at the south end of the Common, in token of the D.A.R. Golden Jubilee.)

Following the exercises on the Common in 1921 there was a memorial service in the Congregational Church. In January two 75mm Krupp mountain cannon and cannon balls to form two pyramids on either side of the monument were delivered from the Watervliet Arsenal.

In March 1928 the D.A.R. placed the following markers: On North Main Street, "First Meeting House"; on Prospect Hill, "Second Meeting House"; on North Main Street, "First School House"; on Homestead Farm, "First Log House built by Benjamin Bellows"; on east side Main

Street, "Old Printing Shop"; on north corner Main and Westminster Streets, "Crafts Tavern".

The Boy Scouts were active under the leadership of Rev. Megathlin, usually going to Sand Pond for a week of camping during the summer. On February 24, 1923, they held their first winter carnival on Dunshee's field with ski and snowshoe races, ski jumping. Winners in the 100-yard ski race were Herbert Peck, Norman Megathlin; 100 yard snowshoe race, Stephen Williams, Charles Booth; 220 yard ski race, Stephen Williams, James Dearborn; ski jumping, Norman Megathlin—29 ft., Bert Ramsay—26 ft.; 50 yard snowshoe race, Marion Teachout, Margaret Rodenbush. In 1924 the Girl Scouts (formed 1922) joined in sponsoring the carnival. Langdon Bellows was the leader.

The church at Christian Hollow was serving as a community center and the school there was still open on the south side of the road. There were the usual Christmas parties, spelling bees (C. W. Tenney, first; daughter Vernie, second), Sunday School picnics, and donation parties.

The Congregationalists seem to have been very busy. Suppers followed by entertainments were money raisers. There were the annual Roll Call Suppers, Children's Days, stereopticon lectures. In 1923 there was the first Every Member Canvass. Every Thursday was "Church Night", although sometimes omitted during August. The old horsesheds were torn down and replaced. In 1923 the church financed a trip for the minister to Niagara, Thousand Islands, Saguenay, Quebec, Montreal, Lake Champlain, Ausable Chasm, and Lake George. On his return they held a reception at the church to hear his account of the trip. Around the middle '30's the Ladies Aid was holding garden suppers during the summer.

In December 1921 Leslie Hubbard was listening to concerts and lectures from Pittsburgh, Newark and Springfield, Mass., with wireless apparatus he installed at his home. He had started his outfit in 1919, long before wireless reached widespread popularity. He built a shack and installed all the wiring and apparatus himself. His first receiving cabinet held one vacuum tube, called a one-step amplifier.

In March 1922 John O'Brien installed a new 700 meter radio at Brooklands. In July 1924 everybody with a radio listened to the broadcast of the Democratic Convention at Madison Square Garden, and in June the Inn installed a 360 meter radio. In June 1927 radio fans were unable to get the Washington celebration for Lindbergh, but received a marvelously clear broadcast from New York of the royal welcome there. The following January they received the broadcast from the Rose Bowl, Pasadena.



During this decade people were staying at the Holland House before they opened their own houses in the spring and after closing them in the fall. Miss Mary Holland had opened in 1907, greatly enlarging and improving the old dwelling (#63).

A new road marking system, numbering from the Atlantic to the Hudson, was started, compiled by the Automobile Club of the American Bureau of Tours and approved by the highway authorities of New England. Monadnock Road through Walpole was marked Route 12. In 1935 there was local objection when Route 10 from Northfield, Mass., through Keene and Newport was rebuilt since it diverted traffic from this area.

In August 1922 Mrs. Charles Bellows was local chairman of the N. Y. Herald Tribune Fresh Air Children. The following in town entertained children: Mrs. Angier, two; Mrs. Tom Kiniry, two; Mrs. Charles Morse, two; Mrs. Dan Kiniry, one; Mrs. Ernest Reed, two; Mrs. McNish, one; Mrs. Rowell, two; Mrs. Graves, two; Miss Edith Clark, two. In 1924 Dr. Mousley and Mrs. Harry Stowell were chairmen. There were Fresh Air children in Walpole as early as 1887 when there were 17 in that year. Fresh Air children are still being entertained in Walpole every summer.

In September 1922 Copley Amory established the upper end of the mill pond as a bird sanctuary. In November 1923 there was a bird sanctuary hearing with Mott L. Bartlett from Concord present. Since there was no heat in the town hall, the hearing was moved to Mr. Megathlin's study. Copley Amory stated his ideas, offered his farm and the George D. Hooper farms for the project. He hoped that adjacent land owners would make it possible to have 1,000 acres in the sanctuary. All expense of feeding and stocking would be taken care of by the game commission and Mr. Amory.

In July 1923 Mrs. Maud Plaisted came from Kingston, N. H., to take charge of the telephone office, assisted by her daughter Ruth and Doris Hoyt of Kingston. The telephone operators were Miss Marion Morse, Miss Dorothy Marsh, Mrs. Charles H. Slade, Miss Margaret Kiniry, and Miss Katherine Sweeney. In 1938 Mrs. Plaisted removed to Keene and was replaced by Ralph Libby who had been with the company for 30 years. Mrs. Alexander Podwin and Mrs. Charles Slade were then the regular operators.

During the summer of 1924 there were several large auctions. At the Lebourveau auction there were 75 cars parked, the biggest number ever seen in Walpole; later there were 110 cars at the Shaw auction (antiques).

In October the local Republican Club was reorganized, holding simul-

taneous rallies at Walpole and North Walpole, with the same speakers. Mrs. Sue D. B. Flint, candidate for representative, spoke and led the singing.

At the election in November 1928 Martha Bandell, nearing 100, voted; as did Charles Hathaway who had voted for Lincoln and had voted in every presidential election since.

#### DECADE 1930-1940

In March 1930 Robert Bellows, Ellen Bellows Endicott, Miss Louisa Knapp and Frederick Knapp deeded to the Village District the Academy Ravine, to be held in trust as a memorial to Rev. Henry Whitney Bellows and Rev. Frederick Newman Knapp. "It is hoped that the old road from the head of the ravine to the Knapp cranberry meadow will be used as a part of the ravine trail. Some 60 years ago the Knapp cranberry meadow, located east of the old meeting house, was very productive and put pin money into many of the pockets of the young people of the town during picking season." This property was bought in 1859 by Mr. Bellows and Mr. Knapp with a view to preserving it in its natural beauty.

In March Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Slade were struck by a slow moving northbound engine at the crossing at the east end of Tucker Bridge, their car pushed along until it became wedged between the flagman's shanty and the engine. The car was demolished, but the occupants of the car were unharmed.

In January 1930 the Mousley Hospital's annual report showed 20 beds, and during the previous year 170 medical cases, 50 obstetric, 70 major and 189 minor surgical. During 1930 the hospital was closed due to Dr. Mousley's illness, reopened in November when Dr. George Prevost came as assistant. Dr. Prevost removed to Keene after 2½ years.

In 1935 there was discussion of reopening the hospital at a cost of \$5,000, first by the Men's Club, later at a public meeting. Finally in March 1938 the hospital was opened with Miss Bessie Ward in charge. The responsibility proved too much for her alone, so it was incorporated as a community project. An Aid Society was formed with 142 members under the direction of Mrs. Edward Brooks. Funds were raised by various projects—food sales, lawn parties by R. J. McKenven.

There was a public discussion of what should be done about continuing the hospital which had been incorporated as The Community Hospital of Walpole in June 1940. There was a great deal of activity on behalf of the hospital: membership drive (160); surplus vegetable donation; auction August 10, 1940; turkey dinner January 1941; \$1000 from County



funds 1941, 1942; purchase of the real estate February 1942. The hospital was closed 1943, and the corporation dissolved at a meeting August 17, 1945. That same year in October the American Legion bought the property, making four apartments in the old hospital building. In August 1959 the Mousley Hospital Aid Society closed its books and gave its remaining funds to the school.

For some years the town voted appropriations to the Keene and Rockingham Hospitals.

During this decade the Drama Group seemed to be interested particularly in one-act plays. In July 1933 they featured the one-act play "Shuttin' O' The Door" by Rebecca Hooper Eastman. She took the part of Mrs. Perkins while Rev. R. L. M. Holt was Mr. Perkins. Walpole won the county and state one-act play contests that were held during this period.

Some of the Walpole people belonged to the Hampshire Player Folk, a county drama group organized 1932 which played around the county.

In 1934 there was skating on the Common with daily flooding to give a good surface and in January 1936 there was unusually good skating on the river with the ice six to eight inches thick. In the fall of 1937 a skating rink was prepared on the north side of Westminster Street west of St. John's Church, a nominal membership fee charged to cover expenses. After the Walpole Winter Sports Club became active, in addition to the skating rink, they laid out ski trails, built a tow and warming house on Graves' Hill, sponsored skiing lessons. In 1931 the High School sponsored a winter carnival on Ramsay Hill but it was not particularly successful.

In May 1930 the following were preparing for summer business: Red Mill Inn, Walpole Inn, Old Colony Inn (formerly the Elmwood), Stage Coach Inn (Bellows Homestead), Holland House (year round, run by Miss Mary Holland), Mrs. Emma F. Bartlett on Elm Street.

For several years C. B. Houghton had belonged to the 300-bushel Potato Club. He held an extension meeting at his place in September on how to obtain high yields and cut costs. In 1936 R. N. Johnson had 90 acres in potatoes, the largest acreage in the state, later even more.

In 1930 there was a straight Republican victory. Hot caucuses were held in February 1933 and, after a heated discussion, the Republicans agreed to nominate only Republicans. The young blood objected to boss rule. Republican rallies were held on the Common in Drewsville by Bridges in 1934 and 1936; by Murphy in 1936; by Cheney in 1938. Rallies were also held at North Walpole and in the town hall.

In November 1930 the Woodward Plant in Westminster was employing 80 during the rush preparing Christmas greens. In April they worked on wreaths for Memorial Day. Having suffered heavy damage in the flood of March 1936, Mr. Woodward bought from Miss Fanny Mason the field on the south side of Depot Hill. Here he erected a new shop and greenhouse. The main building of cement blocks 60 ft. x 100 ft. fronted toward the street with office and salesroom in front, packing, shipping and cold storage rooms in the rear. The second floor was used for dry storage, the basement for greens. Extending from this building, and parallel with the road, was a greenhouse 30 ft. x 100 ft.; in spring to be used as a greenhouse, in the fall as a workroom by 100 or more employees working on Christmas greens. Mr. Woodward supplied a wreath to the White House each year. The new plant was opened to the public March 20, 1937, a souvenir rose presented to each lady.

In April 1933 the water came up over the road south of Cold River. George Hatch drove his truck into it before realizing the situation, waded out through water waist deep. April 12th there was a freak blizzard, every twig loaded with wet snow, beautiful but destructive. Throughout the night one heard the crack of the snow-laden limbs followed by the rumble of the snow as it cascaded to roofs or ground. Flashes like lightning came with the rending of electric wires. In the morning-light streets and yards were littered with broken branches, knee-deep snow blockaded everything. It took several days to repair the power and telephone lines. Since the winter road equipment had been changed over to summer, transfers were made on the truck plow to clear the roads; and the road scraper was turned to a new use about the village. North Main Street was blocked by one large and several small trees. The heaviest fall seemed to be in the village with about 18 inches, but it was freakish with a heavy fall back on the hills. Of course, the snow soon melted, leaving the debris.

Again there was a heavy snowstorm on February 19, 1934, with 20-24 inches estimated but hard to judge accurately because it was so fluffy. Through traffic on Main Street was possible at times but trains both ways were hours late. The hill roads were thoroughly blocked. There was another heavy storm on the 26th with drifts 6-8 ft. deep that no equipment could break through so they had to be shovelled. The equipment worked ten days day and night with only one breakdown. Motor travel was difficult, the roads being narrow—like trenches.

In 1931 Arthur Whitcomb had a new power shovel and was prepared to do contract road work. F. A. Whitcomb had a gravel crusher. In December they formed the F. A. Whitcomb and Son Company. In addition





TOWN OFFICERS: H. E. Smith, Treas.; L. W. Graves, Select.; L. S. Ballam, Select.;  
M. M. Ballam, Clerk; H. T. Killeen, Select. (Baker)



NORTH WALPOLE VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS: M. W. Edson, D. Shaughnessy,  
H. Bushway (Baker)





WALPOLE VILLAGE OFFICERS: J. A. Hubbard, Comm.; E. E. Houghton, Supt.; F. E. Aldrich, Clerk; H. J. Larsen, Comm.; H. S. Putnam, Treas.; O. H. Woodward, Comm.



MEMBERS WALPOLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Baker)





VILLAGE FIRE HOUSE AND APPARATUS

*(Baker)*



MEMBERS NORTH WALPOLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

*(Baker)*





NORTH WALPOLE VILLAGE HALL

*(Baker)*



MAZEPPA FIRE COMPANY AT WENTWORTH HOTEL before 1880





WALPOLE TOWN HALL about 1925



WALPOLE INN about 1950

*(Harris)*





BASEBALL IN 1908: Back: Nickerson, . . . , . . . , . . . , Hawks, Sawyer, C. Farnsworth, G. Farnsworth; Front: Hall, Warn, . . . , R. Warren, L. Warren; Boy: Williams

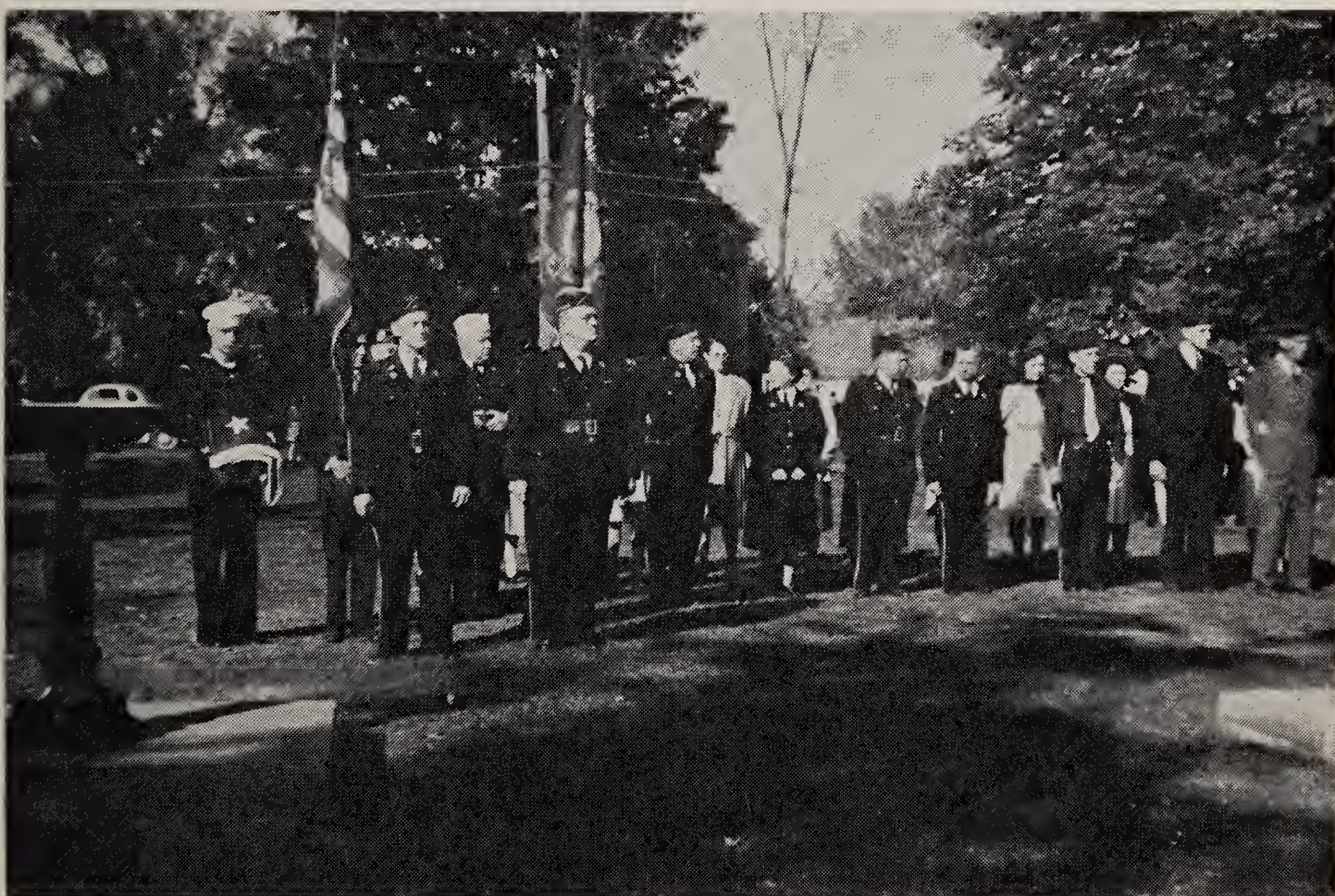


FERRYBOAT RIDE TO PUTNEY about 1910





WALPOLE FLOAT IN BELLOWS FALLS BICENTENNIAL PARADE, 1953  
People on the Float Were Descendants of John Kilburn



AMERICAN LEGION AT SERVICES ON THE COMMON about 1943





THE AUDIENCE AT THE





"CANTEBURY PILGRIMS", Aug. 11, 1909





SCHOOL FAIR PARADE, Walpole Village, 1950



SCHOOL FAIR FLOAT about 1940





WESTMINSTER STREET, Fred A. Lebourveau about 1910



MR. CHICKERING FILLING THE LAMPS in 1903

*(Hastings)*





THE VILLAGE SQUARE about 1950



GRANT AND COLFAX FLAG RAISING, 1868





WENTWORTH HOTEL, before 1880 (#9)



RED MILL INN, about 1910 (#9)





THE VILLAGE STORE as it was about 1895 (#6)



RAYMOND GALLOWAY AT THE DRUG STORE about 1910 (#6)





THE LEAF AND LENS, about 1950 (#8)

(Harris)



BRIDGE MEMORIAL LIBRARY about 1930 (#111)





GUEST'S STORE about 1950 (#90)

(Harris)



SAVINGS BANK OF WALPOLE in 1962

(Baker)



to washing gravel, they had ordered a compressor for drilling, blasting and crushing trap rock for road construction.

In February 1933 a branch of the N. H. League of Home Industries (Arts & Crafts) was organized with Mrs. Jessie Dearborn as president, Miss Dorothy Woodward vice-president, Mrs. D. W. Harris secretary-treasurer. In May a shop was opened at the Woodward flower shop with Miss Dorothy in charge. In 1934 the shop was at the Historical Society property, Mrs. Carl Dennett in charge, later Miss Vera Kenrick. It was considered a success and was continued at the same location.

Tuesday, March 17, 1936, flood waters rose with the breaking up of the ice, lowered slightly immediately following the passing of the jam (near Cheshire Bridge), then increased all Wednesday night and Thursday morning, with heavy rains up and down the valley continuing into the evening. More than 100,000 cubic feet of water per second was going over the dam. Late Wednesday morning the water surged across the road at Cold River, depositing large ice cakes, covering the road with four feet of water, the bridge submerged; and by late afternoon there was two feet of water over the railroad. The afternoon train from Boston was forced to return to Walpole. The west approach to Vilas Bridge was washed away.

The Watkins Hill Road was impassable from the bridge at the foot of the hill to Nial Bemis' farm (Petrie). The River Road was open, but slimy and covered with water. There were minor washouts in the Tiffany section. Huntington Hill was badly washed as were also the Valley Road and Ramsay Hill Roads although the latter two with less damage. The oiled roads held better than the gravel. Students and teachers had thoughts of a mud vacation.

Some North Walpole families were evacuated, the children being cared for at the schoolhouse for two days. The river cut a new course around the Vermont end of the Village Bridge; the east end of the Arch Bridge was under water; and at the mill pond the flood was up to Mathers' doorstep. Herbert Woods' two and one-half story barn was submerged to its eaves for several days and there was mud and water to the second story of his house. The animals were saved and were stabled at the Homestead. The Ballam and Boudrieau farms were washed and littered with debris. Thomas Ashcroft's house was carried away by the flood, and Hermon O. Woodward suffered heavy damage at his plant in Westminster. Milk shipments to Boston were impossible for three days and then they went by truck.

In March 1939 Napolian Boudrieau, Charles M. Moore, Samuel J.

Chickering, Robert L. Blood, Arthur Christian, Hermon O. Woodward and Arthur Chickering brought suits against the Bellows Falls Hydro-electric Company on the basis of negligence, unreasonable use and operation of a nuisance; but all of them lost.

After the financial crash of 1929 resulting in the Depression, Walpole had certain phases of the various recovery plans. In October 1933, there being no Chamber of Commerce, the Men's Club organized the National Recovery Act (NRA) committee to hear complaints: Rev. R. L. M. Holt, Rev. J. H. Allen, H. J. Stowell, George Jeffrey, L. O. Thompson, H. S. Van Demark, John K. Whittemore. In November the relief road work program began with 16 men working, straightening the curve on the hill near St. Peter's cemetery. In January 1936 there were about 20 men working on the road under the Works Progress Administration (WPA). In 1937 there was WPA money available for sidewalk construction, again in 1938.

In September 1934 women from Drewsville, Alstead and North Walpole were working in two shifts of twelve, three days each week, in St. Peter's Hall, North Walpole. Bolts of cloth, thread and cotton batts were furnished by the state to make 600 quilts to be distributed to the needy. There were two quilting frames and two sewing machines in use. The women were paid for the work which was under the direction of Mrs. William Lane.

In January 1936 there were weekly meetings of World Fellowship Institute at the Congregational Church; October 1937 Vera Micheles Dean spoke on *Peace by Cooperative Action*; in 1938 Prof. Rupert Emerson and Prof. Karl Friedrich of Harvard spoke on *Foreign Policy*; Armistice Day (November 11) a meeting was held at the library to pray for World Peace; in September 1939 "Union Now" (for peace) was meeting bi-monthly.

In late May 1937 North Walpole celebrated the opening of the new Nims Field. The land had belonged to the Nims estate, the family allowing its use to the school. Then they made it available at a reasonable price and the School Board bought. The celebration included burning of the last village mortgage, a baseball game with the Italian Boys' Club of Rutland, followed by a dance and bazaar at Russell Hall.

In September 1937 an oil tank truck plunged into the river about 350 yards north of the Standard Oil yards and sank into 20 ft. of water, the driver escaping. The air in the tank held the rear end up for sometime. Edward Naski dove from Norman Parrott's motor boat and attached a



chain to the front. There was great excitement among the onlookers while the Smith Auto Sales wrecker, using the railroad track as an anchor, pulled the truck back up onto the road. The cable broke once, damaging a passing car. After that, traffic was detoured by the Missing Link Road. The performance moved the track out of place by four inches.

Words cannot describe the havoc wrought by the hurricane which struck Walpole Wednesday, September 21, 1938, about 5 P.M., following five days of rain which had so moistened the soil that trees fell prey to the onslaught of the wind.

Thursday morning showed roofs crushed, chimneys gone, sections of roofs torn away; whole groves of pines and hardwoods broken and twisted as though enemy batteries had shattered them to remnants. At the same time the river was steadily rising, threatening to add its menace to that of the wind.

From outside the village reports came that at Hubbard Farms a large portion of the roof was torn from the laying house under construction, other damage at the home farm and at the Huntington farm, at Everett Rhodes Jr.'s his large henhouse partially destroyed; at J. B. Cobb, Richard Graves, Lawrence, and several others brooder houses upturned with consequent loss of birds.

In the village not a street was passable—strewn with large elms and maples with splintered tops broken to the ground or uprooted. The cemetery was a shambles beyond belief. Out along the County Road the Bunker 100 acre lot of heavy pine was but a mass like jackstraws; along the north skyline H. J. Stowell's pines stood like toothpicks, now and then one with a feathery tuft of branches at the tip. At Maple Grove half of the famous maple orchard was down, fit only for working into firewood. At the Ballam and Angier farms north of town there was a large barn and silo down, a full tobacco barn, and another barn, chimney at the house and barn roof damaged. At Nelson's a barn was blown down. Nelson Boudrieau had 30 acres of corn under flood waters from Wednesday night—a loss. Fred Bailey had his barn cupola and several brooder houses wrecked. Jacob Koson lost a chimney and had damage from a tree falling onto his house. Nearby Adam Rock lost six acres of corn. E. George Edwards lost a silo, and the ell of the house was blown off its foundations. William Burrows found his woodshed in small pieces down the hillside, while his father, Henry Burrows, lost a chimney and had roof damage. At the Hooper School building on Prospect Hill, the forge shop, built of cement blocks, was completely demolished. F. A. Ramsay

on Ramsay Hill found great damage to the glass in his east windows, with consequent loss from wind and rain inside.

At C. A. Moore's the buildings were not injured, but large trees near the house were uprooted, taking sidewalks and everything near with them. Across the street Mrs. Clifford Bellows' house barely escaped from falling trees, the front fence being demolished. Miss Mary Maynard's cottage had the roof badly damaged by falling trees. The Chimney on the high school building was blown away, while close by the three large elms at the W. C. Foster place were completely destroyed. On School Street trees fell on W. W. Shackley's barn, partially caving in the roof. Portions of the house were also damaged. Across the street Oliver Hubbard lost every tree on his grounds. On North Street Warren Colburn's little brick house was caught under the dangling mess of a large tree blown across its roof with a smaller tree caught in the fall. John Warren sat calmly reading his family Bible until a neighbor told him that a tree at one side had crushed a portion of his roof. A portion of the roof at the rear of Mrs. George Quincy's house landed across Main Street. Miss Grace Canfield lost a chimney in the ell of her house. At Wallace Graves' a chimney tore a six-foot hole through the roof and the wind scattered the pieces about the landscape.

A large elm standing between the Peck Drug Store and Mrs. Libby's drygoods store crashed into the end of the R. G. Graves block and demolished Everett E. Houghton's sedan which had just been parked there; carried a whole sash from a window of Clyde Jeffrey's apartment over the drug store and barely missed another car parked in front of the building. Just back of this a section of the front of the Graves building used by R. N. Johnson as a warehouse was torn away by the blasts. Walter Felch had his shed taken up bodily and set askew on the hillside. A number of miles away Jesse Laurie watched his poultry house rise in the air and land off its foundation. Few chimneys and roofs were left unharmed. At least two roosters who had weathered many an ordinary storm were the worse for the buffeting—Mrs. George Holland's and Mrs. A. Harley Rogers' weathervanes.

All transportation and communication were at a standstill. Housewives with electric stoves were left to improvise ways of providing meals for their families, some resorting to the limited amount of sterno to be had, some to the old-time fireplace, some dragging out discarded oil stoves. Most difficulties were overcome with a stock of good nature.

In November there was a meeting at the town hall for an explanation of the Federal plan for salvage of hurricane timber. Plans were made for



storing the logs in Mathers' Pond, John Graves' Pond and two other small ponds, but these plans were not carried out. It was actually stored on that part of the Amory farm opposite where Hubbards had had their turkeys.

In mid-afternoon Saturday, May 6, 1939, a forest fire started on Fall Mountain, shot up to the top, and spread in all directions. The C.C.C. brought it under control, only to have it flare up again on Sunday. The fire hazard was especially great after the hurricane.

#### DECADE 1940-1950

There was a great deal of busyness in connection with the war effort (World War II): May 21, 1940 a workroom was opened at the Congregational vestry for knitting and sewing, a branch of the Keene chapter of the Red Cross, Mrs. Ralph Wood and Mrs. A. S. Lewis in charge; there was a drive for funds for European war refugees; school children in the six grades made scrapbooks for War Relief; Mrs. Charles P. Howland held a garden party for war relief benefit; in July two sewing groups were formed, at the Congregational and Unitarian Churches, in August a Catholic group; Walpole Committee to Defend America formed (organization started by William Allen White); a flower show and a dance were for Red Cross benefit; in February 1941 a surgical dressing group started meeting at the bank Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. (34,220 dressings made in a year); in March the food stamp plan was inaugurated; in June 1941 United Service Organization (USO) was started, a canvass for funds; August 1941 a complete First Aid course was given, another in October for men; Red Cross membership drive in 1941 was the highest ever, \$400; December 1941 Civil Defense crews were organized, office at the town hall; there was a collection of aluminum utensils, a pile of 20 tons of metal on the Common; 150 took seven lessons for air raid wardens; there were test air raid warnings and blackouts in March 1942 and other times.

In May 1942 it was reported that since Red Cross organization two years earlier the following had been completed: 542 sweaters, 10 baby shirts, 30 rompers, 14 helmets, 57 pairs socks, 46 knitted suits, 1 pair gloves, 3 pairs rifle mitts, 23 baby jackets, 5 pairs pajamas, 10 baby slips, 30 baby dresses, 20 baby kimonos, 26 girls' dresses, 3 pairs overalls, 43 baby blankets, 3 pairs mittens, 6 bathrobes, 89 children's skirts, 25 surgical gowns, 25 layettes; since February 1941 43,915 surgical dressings. In January 1943 the workroom was closed because of a shortage of material and fuel.

From 1942 to 1945, in seven war loans, some \$750,000 was the share of Walpole to subscribe.

Rationing began in April 1942 with sugar, followed in May by gasoline. By October B ration books were cut to 378 miles per month. Rubber goods, particularly tires, were restricted. Oil, coffee, butter, meats were added to the list. In August 1945, after three years, Mrs. Lillian Smith closed the ration office at the town hall, any future business to be done through Keene.

The first service flag at North Walpole had 166 stars in 1943. In 1944 the center of the flag had worn out, was remodelled with a new white ground with one star, with a total of 220. Before it was flown there were 239 men in service. On Memorial Day 1945 a new honor roll was dedicated near the east end of the Arch Bridge.

October 7, 1942 a new pole and flag were dedicated at the north end of the Common in Walpole Village. Homer G. Wallace, father of the first casualty in World War II raised the flag. There were 145 in service from Walpole at that time. By 1943 when the American Legion Auxiliary raised a service flag over Main Street by the library there were 179. This flag was replaced in February 1944, for 270 men and women.

In July 1942 there was a gala benefit for Walpole War Relief, raised over \$1000. There were a baby parade with 50 entrants, pony rides, horse show, games, fortune telling, food and gift sales, fifth annual flower show, Grange dance with Ralph Page of Keene calling. In 1943 a card party at Old Colony Inn and Mrs. Butler's home was substituted.

There were more home gardens than in years. In 1943 there were nine entrants in the Victory Garden contest: Clyde Jeffrey, Charles D. Dalzell, H. O. Pierce, Mrs. Edward Parsons, Langdon Bellows, Mrs. R. U. Bunker, Mrs. S. Malcolm Wood, Mary Clark, Grace Graves. Mrs. Wood and Mr. Dalzell tied for first place.

In 1942 there was great excitement one night when signals were seen on Fall Mountain. Military police were called, only to find that hikers were finding their way down the mountain with flashlights.

V.E. Day, May 8, 1945, was observed rather than celebrated in Walpole, quietly with an air of reverence. For some it was a day of renewed sadness, for others a day of expectation and hope; for all a feeling of relief that one phase of the war was over, but with the realization that there was still a long road ahead before the capitulation of Japan.

When the news came over the radio at 7 P.M. August 14, 1945, of the end of the war, there was relief and enthusiasm not seen since Armistice Day. The fire alarm went on a rampage, church bells were rung, the long



silent bell in the fire station took up the chorus, sirens blared, the fire truck added to the din with its siren open full blast while Chief Shackley took a truck-load of shouting boys for a tour of the village. Wednesday there was a complete shutdown of business. Official V.J. Day was observed with a community service of Thanksgiving at the town hall, with the evening services at the churches Sunday, August 19th, in charge of the American Legion.

Those from Walpole who gave their lives in World War II were Hudson E. Bridge, William T. Burrows, Bruce A. Gilbo, Philip Harris, Forrest Kimball, Edward J. Nachozski, Donald Parrott, Hoyt Wilson, Raymond Wallace, Edward Kiniry, Harold Lorange, William Weeks, Maurice Pelton, and Harold G. Parks.

On March 18, 1946, the North Walpole people welcomed their men home with a turkey banquet. Charles Grignon, Chairman of the Village Committee, was master of ceremonies. There were one hundred in attendance. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4427 was soon organized in North Walpole.

Walpole Village held its official welcome home May 23rd with a turkey dinner and dance at the town hall under the auspices of the American Legion.

This was a decade of much activity and many changes. In August of 1940 the County Road was completed, ending a twelve-year project. In 1936 zoning had been inaugurated in Walpole Village and in 1940 there was a building boom, the next such boom not being until 1962. Also, in 1940 there was general reconstruction and refurbishing at the Congregational Church, putting in new acoustic tile ceiling, installing a new organ with its dedication in May. In 1941 a set of chimes was presented to the church by the choir.

In June 1941 the Rev. Robert L. M. Holt resigned after serving as pastor of the Unitarian Church for nearly twenty years. That summer Mrs. Holt accidentally drowned in Kings Canyon, California, and he died December 23, 1942 (71).

An amount of \$1,392.35 was netted by the Grange over a period of four years from dances which it sponsored. Out of this fund the Grange gave \$242.50 to the Red Cross, \$107.35 to Community Hospital, \$200.00 to the Boudrieaus after their fire; \$35.00 to the Infantile Paralysis Fund, and \$35.00 to the Cheshire Fair Association.

R. N. Johnson was at this time probably the largest potato grower in the state, having 115 acres under cultivation. Other potato raisers were



Bant H. Morgan, Stuart Graves, Josiah Graves, Joseph Cobb, Louis Ballam.

In January 1945 the "Cheshire", which started its runs November 13, 1944, from White River Junction to Boston, was wrecked at Walpole but with slight injury to the passengers. A housing near the front of the train dropped, causing the train to split a switch and enter a short sidetrack. The sidetrack curved into the Walpole freight house; and as the train rounded the curve, it was derailed, first striking a Hubbard Farms' storehouse and ending by plowing a few feet into the freight house. A regulation train took the passengers to Boston.

In March 1945 North Walpole, at its precinct meeting, voted to set aside \$1000 toward a new fire truck and to extend the water main from the Green Company to the Packing Plant (which paid \$500 toward the cost). The meeting waxed hot over the proposals for the new fire truck and for a swimming pool. It was finally voted to work with Walpole Village on a Cold River pool.

There was considerable misunderstanding about the conditions necessary to comply with the building code when Gerald K. Sweet set up his diner in Walpole Village. At a large public hearing it was made clear that the rules applied only to what he added to the complete diner which he had wheeled into place.

In 1945 instead of the usual flower show, visits were arranged to the following: Mrs. John Babbitt's garden; Mrs. Clifford Bellows' house and garden; Mrs. Guy Bemis' house; Mrs. Leighton Bridge's house and garden; Mrs. Arthur Bunker's house; Mrs. R. U. Bunker's house and garden; Mrs. Edward Cutter's house and garden; Mrs. Thorndike Endicott's house; Mrs. Dana Hooper's garden; and Mrs. David Reed's house and garden. Over 100 attended.

In May 1948 the Garden Club was organized with the following officers: President Mrs. Leighton Bridge; Vice-Presidents Langdon Bellows and Mrs. George R. Harris; Secretary Mrs. Paul M. Savi; Treasurer Mrs. Robert Mensel; Executive Committee Mrs. Ernest L. Mitchell, Mrs. Robert E. Harrington, Mrs. Guy H. Bemis. After a few years this club became inactive and was recently officially dissolved.

In August 1948 a Blue Cross-Blue Shield meeting was held at the Grange and community Blue Cross became effective Sept. 1, 1948.

This same year Rev. Samuel Maxwell suggested that the history of Walpole be brought up to date and the following committee was formed: Mrs. Marion Weymouth, Mrs. Edith Tiffany, Mrs. Thorndike Endicott,



Mrs. A. M. Bragg, Dr. Charles Houghton, Donald E. Hubbard, Herbert R. Tucker, and Mr. Maxwell.

Sunday, August 22, 1948, the Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lee Settler Program was presented at the town hall. President Houghton of the Historical Society presided, opening the program with interesting and entertaining anecdotes of early Walpole. The Rev. Samuel Maxwell, as Parson Fessenden, opened with his 28thly while H. O. Pierce as tything man rapped nodding men with the knob on his pole or swung the furry end under the bonnets of nodding sisters. The William Billings hymn (he was Mrs. Oliver Hubbard's great-grandfather) and the Walpole hymn, taken from an early volume filled with hymns named for various towns, were sung. Jessie Graves prepared the script for the Quilting Bee, being actual happenings about 1812. John P. McGee formally and pompously, complete in frock coat and high hat, presided over the singing school, trained by Mrs. Charles Houghton. Mrs. Homer Wallace, stepping out of Godey's Book, presided over her class of blue-jeaned boys and frilled and panta-letted girls, scared in anticipation of the visit of the school committee, this time John W. Prentiss who was a teacher in the 1870's. With Mrs. Wallace at the piano and Homer fiddling, George Jeffrey called for a quadrille that was danced by a younger group. The program closed with the Walpole Song, written by George S. Harris, sung by the hallful of people. In the lower hall Mrs. A. M. Bragg had arranged an antique exhibit.

August 30, 1948, the 25-year-old men were required to register for the first Peace Time Draft.

On Sunday, August 27, a fire broke out on Fall Mountain near the erection site of the new power line and lasted four days but burned only brush and slash. One hundred men fought this. On September 7th it again broke out and spread over the south end of the mountain. Fred Carman was engaged to fly over the area every few hours until rain came. Eight hundred acres were burned over, most of it not visible from the Bellows Falls side. A week later they were still fighting the fire with George Porter of Langdon in charge. The fire was particularly stubborn in a gully back of Table Rock.

In 1948 the school was running the first district-owned school bus. Lyle Jeffrey drove the Watkins Hill, County Road, Fletcher District. Beyond there R. N. Johnson transported his own children. The Houghton bus covered the River Road District and Mrs. R. G. Graves' man drove the Cold River, Drewsville, Valley District.



In January 1949 heavy rains for two days caused Cold River to overflow its banks near its mouth and flood the road for a few hours.

On December 30th in the early hours of the morning a strong wind toppled six power poles leaving Westminster and the north part of Walpole without power from 2:30 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. The Power Company crews, dispatched to the scene, found a Boston firm's truck parked at the side of the road with the fallen wires, still alive, ensnared about the cab and truck body. Inside the cab the driver sat waiting coolly for aid. According to a crew member, if the driver had touched the door handle or had in any other way tried to move from his position, he would have been electrocuted. The truck was undamaged and continued on its way.

Russell Hall burned Sunday, January 31, 1949. About 11:45 P.M. the family of Fire Warden James Stapleton noticed the red glare of the fire in the sky. The firemen, hampered by zero weather, managed to save the fire truck housed in the basement. Lost were the library, precinct offices, jail, sports and social center, kitchen with \$500 worth of equipment, costumes for the minstrel show to be presented the following Tuesday, and CYO equipment. Of the 2500 books in the library about 150 were salvaged. People from the whole town were asked for donations to supply new books and the town made a special appropriation of \$1500.

Bellows Falls charged for the pumper sent to the Russell Hall fire and North Walpole appealed. However, the reply was that, when the pumper was purchased, all surrounding towns were notified that the charge for the first hour would be \$100, and \$75 for each succeeding hour.

In March 1949 the District Nurse service was incorporated. It had been handled for 45 years by a board of five women from the local churches and financed to a liberal extent by Miss Fanny Mason. Now that Miss Mason was dead, there was need for a more formal organization. The service is now financed by the income from Miss Mason's bequest of \$20,000, an amount of \$1000 from the precinct, and the fees. The district served is all that south of Cold River on a 24-hour call. Mrs. George Jeffrey is the nurse. She replaced Miss Charlotte Lane who retired in 1946 after serving as District Nurse for twenty-two years. The first officers in 1949 were President Margaret Porter, Treasurer Mrs. Arthur P. Davis, Clerk Mrs. S. A. Lewis, Directors Mrs. A. C. Dickey and Mrs. Fred Perham.

On May 12, 1949 the ordinances adopted by the Village District of Walpole on October 6, 1936, providing for zoning of said district were legalized and ratified by the Senate and House of Representatives of the



General Court. These had provided for an adjustment board of five persons and a building inspector. Upon adoption of these rules the Commissioners of the Village District automatically became the "Board of Commissioners".

All during the summer of 1949 the commissioners for Walpole Village were at work trying to get a supplemental water supply. The engineers had found the best source on the Britton land at the foot of Watkins Hill but there was difficulty over the price and the distance from the village. Another source was found on R. N. Johnson's land near the old #14 School, and the drilling company guaranteed the flow. The distance was less than from the other site. However, after the well was dug, it failed to produce the expected flow. The commissioners then returned to the Britton site. There was some trouble driving the well here, but the flow was adequate (200 gallons per minute). The total cost with the pump house was \$50,000.

DECADE 1950-1960 & UP TO JULY 1, 1962.

In 1951 North Walpole faced the problem of an inadequate water supply, a vexing problem for many years. In 1958 an engineering study was made of the problem but the recommendations were turned down by the voters. At the meeting in March 1960 confusion reigned when a discussion of water, fire protection and sanitation was attempted.

On April 26, 1951, there was an overflow audience at the Pops Concert at Hubbard Gymnasium with the Walpole Community Orchestra, the Westmoreland Choral Society and the Balladiers presenting the program. The orchestra began playing in 1939 and made its first public appearance in a concert at the Congregational Church May 14, 1942.

In the spring of 1951 it will be remembered that Walpole High School won the one-act play contest over Charlestown and Vilas High, with Donald Houghton being judged the best actor. Also, that spring the Southwest School Music Festival was held in Walpole, its bands thrilling the crowd with a band concert on the common in the afternoon and its orchestras presenting in the evening at the Hubbard Gym a concert that will be long remembered.

The year 1951 also saw the merging of two baseball teams in the town with Harley Prentiss as manager and Caswell Menard as coach. The Grange sponsored a benefit dance to help raise money for new uniforms. At North Walpole there was an Athletic Club with baseball team.

Each winter there are men's and women's bowling leagues who wind up their season with a banquet in some favorite eating place.



In August 1951 Louise Stafford and Anne Podwin, who had been operating the Walpole Diner that had been moved to Brattleboro, opened the Green Lantern Restaurant on the site of the old hotel. They sold in 1954 to David Alexander. Mrs. Ruth Latham operated the restaurant and bought it in 1961. It was closed for a little time in 1960 but business was then resumed. Part of the building was taken over for a laundromat in 1960 under the management of Ben O'Connor.

The Walpole Inn, which Copley Amory had made out of the old Mitchell house, had a surge of life and its final demise during this decade. The old swimming pool in the basement, out of use for many years, was empty and cracked. No longer was there bowling on the lawn or croquet and tennis on the courts. It was all forgotten. The billiard room had been changed successively to a breakfast room, an antique room, and a cocktail lounge. The old, almost black, Mission furniture was outmoded.

James Lynd Mitchell had built the house, which became Walpole Inn, about 1870, having a garden on the west guarded by a white picket fence. When Copley Amory bought the place in 1902, he took down the stable and replaced with the east wing. He added another wing to the rear and built on porches. An artesian well was sunk and the water brought into the building through miles of brass piping.

Later the brick house opposite the Inn was acquired for an annex. As automobiles became common, the barn with this place became the hotel garage. With the increased use of automobiles and improvement in roads, there were fewer seasonal guests and more transients.

Reginald Cahalane carried on the Inn for a couple of years but the depression forced him out. For a season it was leased by the White brothers, twins; and then it changed hands rapidly, being run with little success and finally closed for several years. In 1947 the property was purchased by Mrs. Louis Weber (later Mrs. Wing) and brought back to life as a successfully run Walpole Inn. After a few years Mrs. Wing sold and the business gradually deteriorated until 1961 when the Savings Bank of Walpole took over the property. In 1962 the building was razed.

In May 1951 tree warden H. O. Woodward set new trees about town, and in May 1953 the Grange set a maple at the John King memorial marker. During the last ten years many of the elms have had to be taken down because of the Dutch Elm disease which has killed them. When the new telephone building was built west of Walpole Inn, several trees were taken down to make room. Two of these were among the largest elms in town, estimated to have been set 1850 or earlier.



Basketball has long been a favorite sport in Walpole. Each season the high school team is loyally and enthusiastically supported, and great was the joy when the team won first place in 1961 in the Class S State Basketball Tournament. The opposing team was Hopkinton and the final score 45-38. A "Welcome, Champs" banner had been raised across Main Street by the time the team returned from Durham at midnight. A motorcade had met them at the Ox Yoke Restaurant and escorted them to an openhouse at the fire-station. They had lost only one game out of sixteen during the season. Dick McCarthy was the coach.

In April 1952 North Walpole completed its fire alarm system, with the siren at Tom Kenney's store.

November 7, 1952, marked the beginning of a new era or ending of an old one in transportation. On that date all train stops at Walpole were cancelled and by May 1954 all mail into town was being transported by truck. On January 23, 1958, the Walpole Village station was closed and retired from service in spite of local opposition. That building had been put up by the railroad in the spring and summer of 1905, being all new except the frame. It extended 200 ft. along the track with a 12 ft. shed and concrete platform. On the outside it was then painted gray with yellow trim. The interior was all new with hard pine floors, walls and ceilings sheathed with white spruce. At the north end was the 12 x 21 ft. baggage room, at the south end the 27 x 21 ft. waiting room with the station agent's office, with its large bay window opening onto the platform, between the two ends. It was heated with hot water and connected with both telephone and telegraph. Being in the path of the new Route #12 bypass of Walpole Village, it was demolished in 1962.

In 1953 the Hood Egg Plant opened for business in October and closed its doors in January 1962. At the beginning there had been 300 producers shipping to this plant but the number had fallen to nine in 1961. There were fifteen employees. The business moved here from Bellows Falls where it had been burned out in November 1952.

It is hard to know what would be of interest to someone a hundred years from now who might be reading this history, but the following happenings during these last ten years may be worth noting. The Red Cross Blood Bank has visited Walpole periodically for blood donations. On June 9, 1952 they drew 122 pints of blood. The chairman at that time was Mrs. Von Lackum.

It is interesting to know that one of the entertainers of our service men, stationed all over the world, is Ray Smith, a Walpolite, with his puppet show. He travels under the auspices of the U.S.O.



By 1952 Walpole Village had population enough so that the care of Route 12 through the village passed from the state to local responsibility.

The skating rink north of Westminster Street and west of St. John's has proved very popular. In January 1953 a small building was moved from Christian Hollow to be placed at the side of the rink. This houses the record player and rink equipment. A warming house was added and in 1960 floodlights installed for night enjoyment of the rink.

In 1954 the new center for the telephone dial system was built on the old tennis courts of the Walpole Inn. Dial service was started April 28, 1955.

For many years the swimming pool in Great Brook near Route 12 was used, but its use depended upon the whims of the owners of the property. In July 1957 a new pool was bulldozed out on the Sawyer farm near the River Road. This did not prove satisfactory, the dam being washed out in spring freshets. In 1960 Robert Aldrich, Eddy Hall and Neil Swift took the lead, with volunteer labor, in building another pool just south of the brook. Jim Bolles with his bulldozer excavated 50 ft. x 100 ft., the deep end being 5½ ft. deep. Northeastern Culvert Corporation provided 280 ft. of 8" culvert to carry brook water to the pool. Town trucks and men hauled and spread gravel. The cash outlay was under \$300. Red Cross swimming classes were held here in 1961.

In September of 1954 two new rooms were finished in the basement of St. Joseph's Church. The year before Father Ernest Gagnon had celebrated the silver jubilee of his priesthood in June.

Also in 1954 a new addition had been made to the Congregational Church and again in 1962 a new basement was excavated to give more room for church school. In 1961 there were 330 in the Sunday Schools in Walpole Village.

In February of 1957, through the American Field Service, the high school arranged for exchange students. Froydis Krossoy of Oslo, Norway, came as the first exchangee. In September of 1960 Yoshikazu Hayashi from Tokyo, Japan entered Walpole High School for a year. These young people lived as members of a Walpole family while attending school. In 1957, also, under the direction of the Experiment in International Living of Putney, twelve young Mexicans spent a month in town, living with various families for that time.

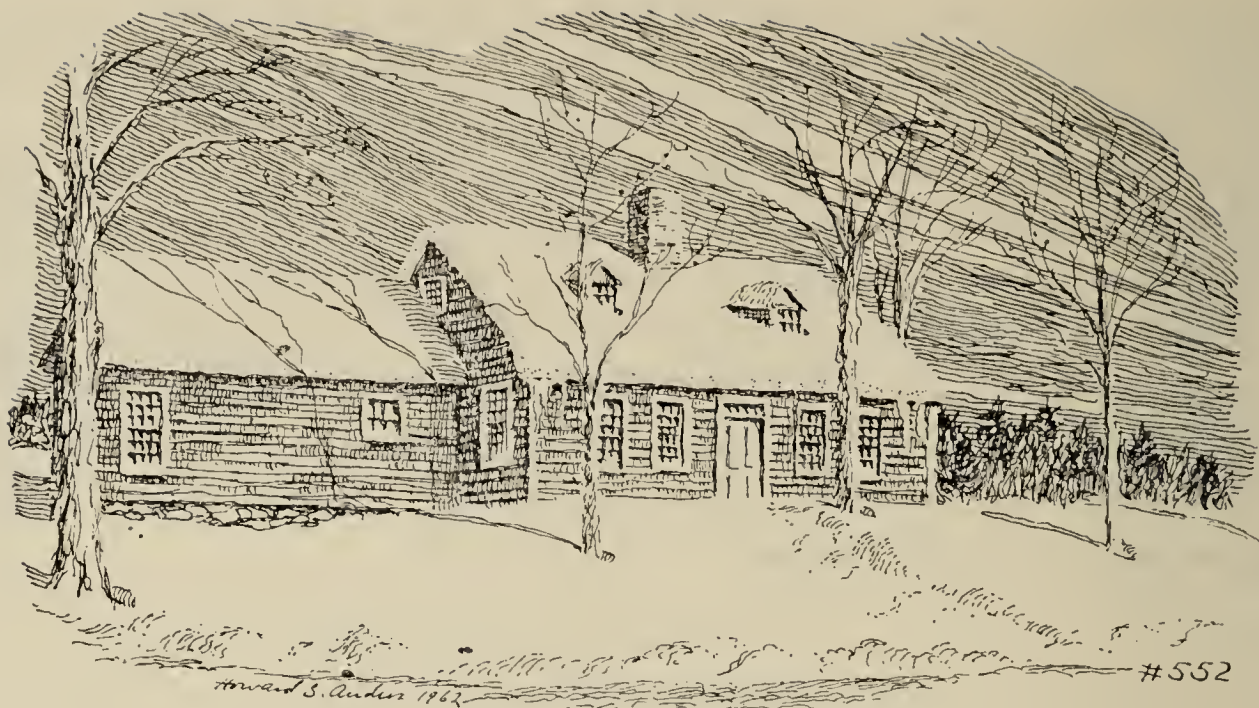
Many years ago the "Boston Post", a newspaper in Boston, Mass., presented canes to the towns where its paper was circulated, such canes to be kept by the oldest man in town. In 1959 Mrs. Margaret Sparhawk, for 25 years town clerk of the town, presented her cane to the town, ex-



pressing the wish that it should be kept, in turn, by the oldest woman in the town. It was a relic of her family, the MacGillivrays, was made many years ago in Scotland and passed from one generation to the next.

In December of 1960 F. Nelson Blount of Dublin, N. H., was making preliminary plans for Steamtown U.S.A., using the round house at North Walpole and running excursions. Because of conflictions with the state's new Route #12, the idea of using North Walpole as a museum of steam locomotives was abandoned. It is still expected that the track from North Walpole to Keene will be purchased from the Boston & Maine Railroad and that future excursions can be run between the two points, with the steam museum being at Keene.





*Old Mellish Place*

## Chapter II

### HOMESTEADS WITH LAND RECORDS

**O**N MARCH 18, 1752 Benjamin Bellows and Josiah Willard completed their survey of Walpole, Westmoreland and Chesterfield and filed their plan in the office of the Secretary of State (then Province).

In 1756 Benjamin Bellows sold to Theodore Atkinson an undivided third of Walpole, including a sawmill, a gristmill, the fort and the house in the fort, all for £500. (Rockingham County Records Vol. 77 p. 21, Sept. 11, 1765.) September 10, 1766 the two gentlemen filed a memorandum of agreement and partition recorded Sept. 4, 1770 (Rockingham County Records Vol. 100 p. 197. See Appendix. Original available at N.H. Historical Society, microfilm copy at State Library.)

With this agreement there was also filed a map of the town showing the lots set off at that time. This map is reproduced in this volume. The only feature which we cannot identify is the road from the village across the Derry Hill Atkinson tract to the east line of Walpole. At first we thought it was the old Emery Road from near the March mill on Great Brook up onto Derry Hill and along the ridge. There seems to be no town record of the laying of this road and we concluded that it must have been very early. On second thought, it seems more likely that it was laid in the early 1790s when Derry Hill was being settled—there are plenty of references to it during that period. Perhaps it was the Fay Hill or the March Hill Road, though not drawn accurately.



Atkinson received the following as his third: 1) A strip from the east line of the town west to the Connecticut River, next south of what is now the south line of Langdon, 2028 acres. 2) Derry Hill, 2764 acres. 3) Boggy Meadow, 1000 acres. Except for the 200 rod wide strip reserved by the governor for himself and his church along the original north line of Walpole, Col. Benjamin Bellows had the rest of the town, a unique situation.

Col. Bellows followed this plan fairly well in selling lots and we have been able to determine the bounds of most of them. There were no First and Second Ranges. The Third and Fourth Range with Wentworth Road between them follow the map closely except that south of #8 in the Third and #11 in the Fourth the south lines of the lots are parallel with the south line of the town (West  $12^{\circ}$  North), while north of these lots the lines are West. Next east is a narrower range, the Fifth, which extends south as far as Watkins Hill. These three ranges all begin in the neighborhood of Walpole Village and the lots are numbered north to south.

The ranges on the hills northeast of the village are tipped at an angle North  $35^{\circ}$  East. These ranges were not numbered on the map, but for convenience we refer to them as First, Second, Third and Fourth Hill Ranges from west to east. Roughly, the Reservoir Road traversed the lots in the First Hill Range, the Ramsay Hill Road was between the Second and Third and the Maple Grove Road served the lots of the Fourth Hill Range. The March Hill Road crossed the northern part of the Derry Hill Atkinson tract. The hill lots are numbered north to south, five or six lots in each range. In many of these lots the north and south 50 acres were sold separately.

Between these two series of ranges and the Derry Hill tract there is a triangular wedge of unnumbered lots. In the north point is what came to be known as the Mepas lot which Col. Bellows left to his daughter Abigail. Next south and appearing to be part of the same lot is what Col. Bellows first sold to Josiah Hubbard. Next south the triangular lot next to the Fifth Range and the two rectangular lots next east were James Bundy's. The next lot to the northeast was Samuel Parker's. South of the Atkinson Derry Hill tract is the rectangular lot of Nathan Bundy along the east side of the road to Keene on Watkins Hill, now Stevens. On the other side of the Keene Road is the lot of Lt. Aaron Allen, later O. H. P. Watkins, now O'Brien.

The rich area along the river north from Walpole Village to Cold River Col. Bellows kept for himself, but the rest of his two-thirds of the

town he proceeded to sell, for the most part on contract. We have never found a copy of a contract; but in his will (1777) he instructed his son, Gen. Benjamin Bellows, "to give deed to any and all persons that I have contracted with for lands; they fulfilling their contracts precisely and paying the same fully up, according to their bargains." Deeds for abutting land refer to many settlers as owners of land to which they never received a deed.

In 1781 Col. Wm. Heywood of Charlestown surveyed the Atkinson tract on Derry Hill and laid out 22 100 acre lots. His bill and survey are at the N.H. Historical Society, and from that survey the map of Derry Hill has been prepared. The lots in the north part of the tract were not included in the survey nor were they ever numbered. They have been sketched in from other land records.

The best old map of Walpole is that of Jonathan Royce (1806) with the following survey: beginning at the southwest corner of the town on Connecticut River South  $80^{\circ}$  East 1626 rods on Westmoreland and 120 rodson Surry to the southeast corner of the town (note there is no jog in this line as shown on the Geological Survey maps); North  $1^{\circ}$  West 1024 rods on Surry, 1591 rods on Alstead to Langdon corner; North  $80^{\circ}$  West 822 rods on Langdon; North 528 rods on Langdon to Charlestown line; North  $80^{\circ}$  West 285 rods on Charlestown to Connecticut River. This map is in the office of the Secretary of State.

When Langdon was set off from Walpole January 11, 1787, the line along the top of Fall Mountain was described as "southerly on west side of Fall Mountain about 1 mile & 200 rods (520 rods), easterly on north line of Mr. Atkinson's land to east line of Walpole. . . ." According to the Langdon map made in 1806 this line was North 526 rods (within two rods of Royce's figure). In 1833 the selectmen of the two towns could not agree on the line. The court settled the matter—North  $8\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  East 536 rods. The 1846 perambulation was North  $10^{\circ}$  East 546 rods. This terrain is difficult to survey. These varying data do, however, point up the differences encountered and the necessity for the exercise of judgment in selection of what is most nearly correct.

There are several other old maps of Walpole worthy of brief mention: Holland Map published 1784; Carrigan Map 1816; 1858 Map of Cheshire County; 1877 Atlas of Cheshire County; 1892 Atlas of New Hampshire. (The last three show homesteads with names of owners.) The 1858 map is the most reliable, although even it has a few inaccuracies: the angles of the north and south lines are incorrect and the insert map of the village is not accurately drawn.





One of the most interesting maps is that based on the surveys of Mitchell & Hazen (1750), the best to be found to give an idea of the original Massachusetts grants of the towns along the river. As has been mentioned before, Col. Bellows mapped the town of Westmoreland as well as Walpole when the New Hampshire charters were granted. The Westmoreland people were much aggrieved because, as they maintained, "Major Willard and Mr. Bellows hath not conformed to our original grant from Massachusetts nor according to our intention, which was to abide by our original lines, which are at present destroyed, for the upper line is removed near two miles down the river from whence our grant first took place, in which lay our Meadows and entervails, with our second divisions and all our improvements on them with the best part of our land and extending our line two miles lower down including barren and rocky hills. . . ." (*History of Cheshire County*)

The Mitchell & Hazen Map bears out this contention. The map does not show an accurate knowledge of the territory, but the pertinent point is that the east line of Walpole is in line with the east line of Charlestown. It hasn't been since the Bellows survey. The Westmoreland people added this postscript to their petition: "Mr. Bellows hath layd out his town about Nine Milles long on the river but four miles wide at the Lower end, and but three milles wide at the upper end. . . . And the four milles wide, & Two Milles in length is run down in to our town that is the Occasion of our Grief." This may explain some of the basis for litigation over land in the southwest part of Walpole in later years.

Another interesting map is to be found with *MAPS OF THE MASONIAN PROPRIETORS* Vol. 5 p. 90 and titled A Plan of a Marked Road from Walpole on Connecticut River to Chester with its true courses and distance laid down by a Scale of 2 miles to an Inch Benj. Whitney 1763 (N.H. Historical Society).

No survey of the town has been made for this work. The map as drawn is based on old surveys of the town, perambulations, deed descriptions, road records, court records and the current government aerial map. In interpreting surveys included here, consideration must be given to the date because of natural variations in compass readings through the years.

In tracing the homesteads we first describe natural areas as shown on the Bellows-Atkinson map (1766) and then trace how these tracts have been broken up into today's homesteads. Consequently, to find the story of a given homestead one needs to read the story of the area.

The number at the beginning of the section on a given homestead



refers to the homestead rather than a specific structure. No attempt has been made to record in detail type of ownership (joint tenancy, etc.). The name following the number is that of the head of the family now owning even though the property may be held in the name of the wife. Sometimes an old name is used as identification, particularly in the case of a cellarhole. In a series of transfers the wife's name, at the time of selling, is in parentheses after the husband's name. These titles have been searched only to determine line of ownership, with no thought for legal implications.

The abbreviation AH refers to Aldrich's history of Walpole, *WALPOLE AS IT WAS AND AS IT IS* (1880).

If there is no statement to the contrary one may assume that there is at present a dwelling on the homestead. There are some cases where the numbers refer to business establishments rather than homesteads.

Some names may be confusing. Col. Benjamin Bellows (died 1777) was the founder of Walpole. His son, Gen. Benjamin Bellows, with his mother, Mrs. Mary Bellows, completed the colonel's land transactions, but also did a great deal of business of his own. Peter (son of Col. Benjamin) also had a son Benjamin who owned land in North Walpole. There were four men named Josiah Bellows: Josiah, son of Col. Benjamin; Josiah II, son of Col. John and grandson of Col. Benjamin; Josiah III, son of Josiah; and Josiah Grahme, son of Josiah III.

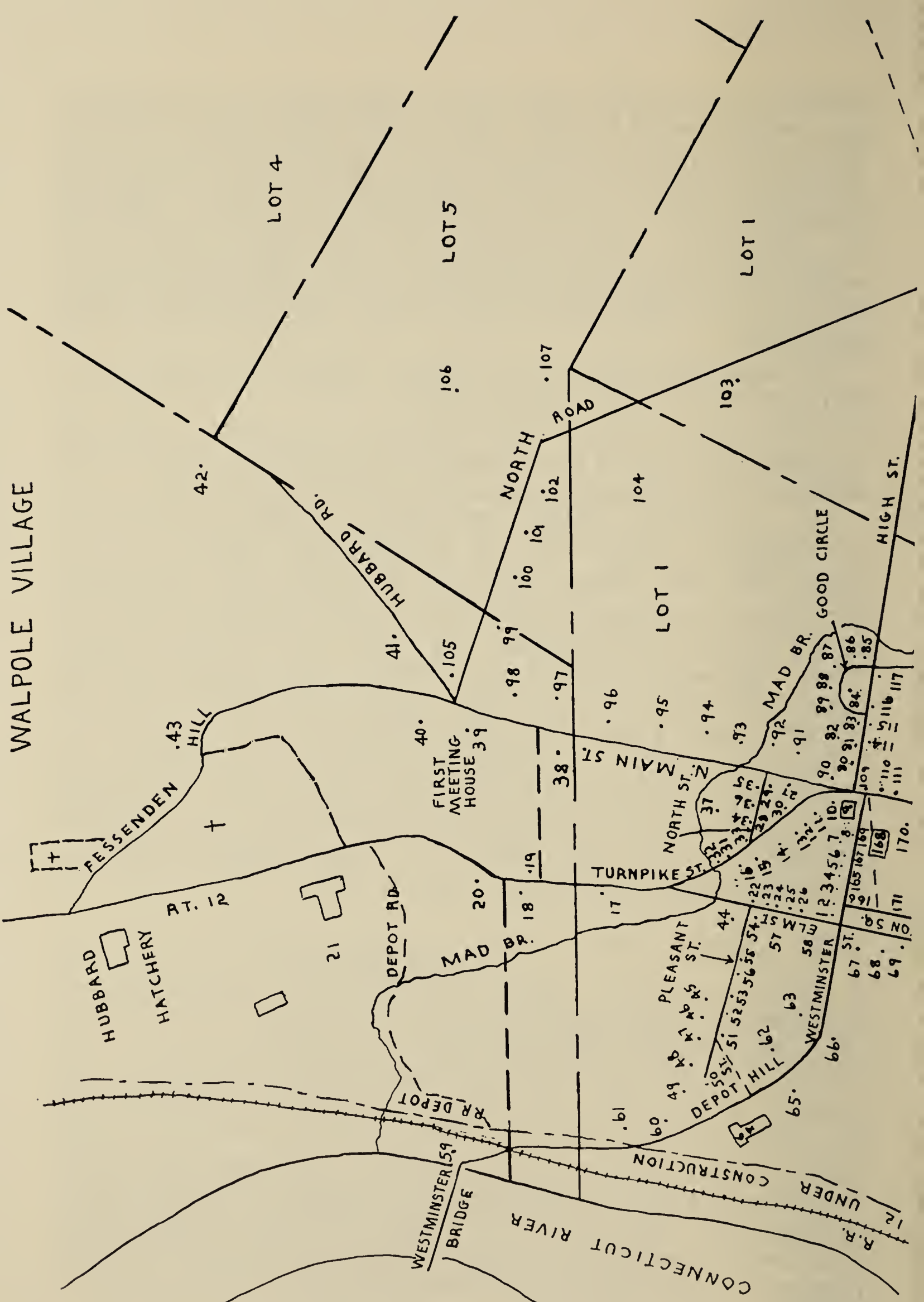
In tracing records in North Walpole it is helpful to remember that Levi Chapin bought most of the area; that his sons Levi and Jonathan had it after him; that Jonathan was unmarried; that Levi's property descended to his daughter Cynthia who married Albert F. Nims; and that their daughter Mary married Almon I. Bolles.

#### WESTMINSTER STREET EAST, CORNER ELM

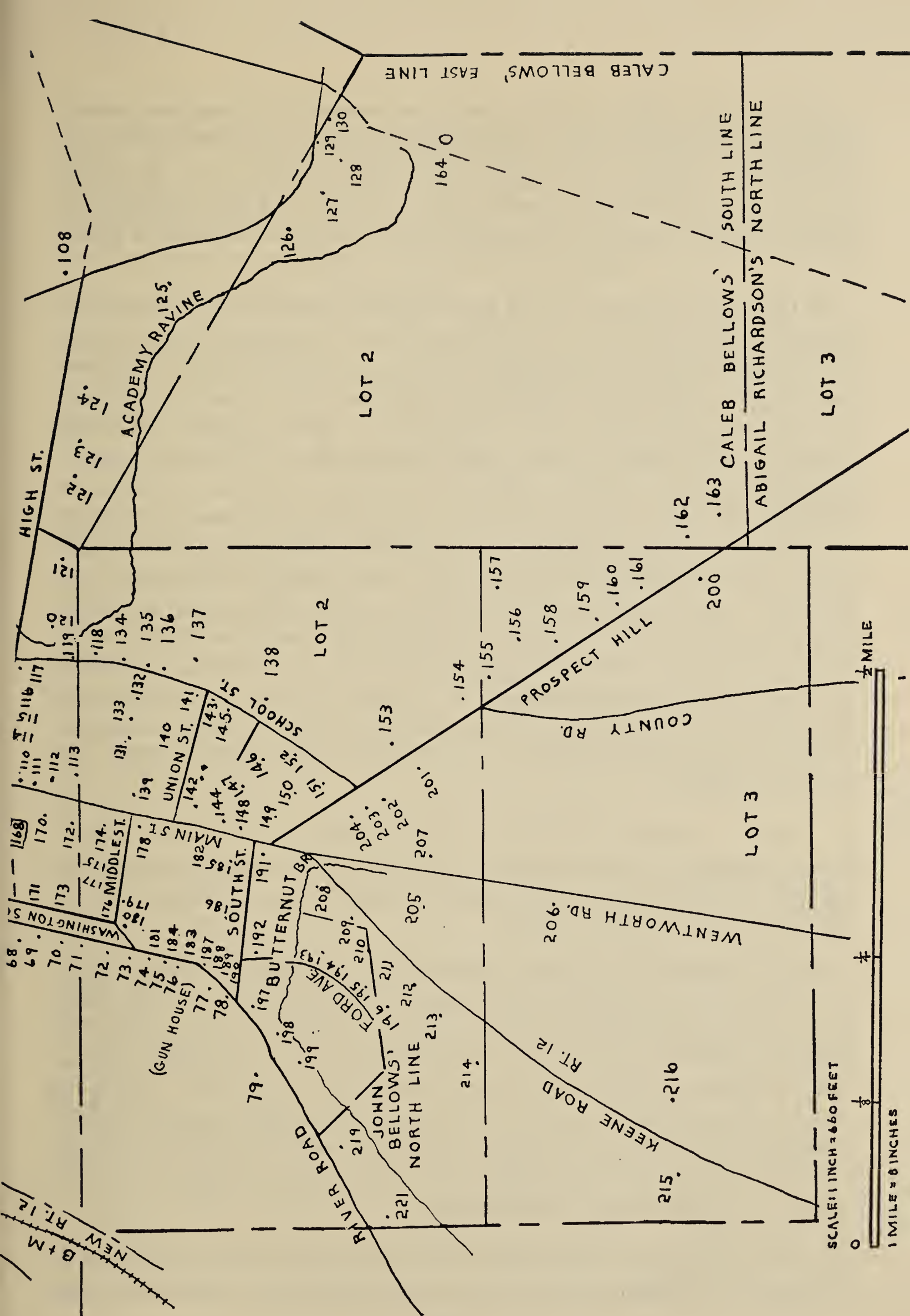
1. ESTATE OF FRANCES C. HICKS: In 1818 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold to Thomas Redington nine rods square here, which in 1831 his heirs sold to Susan Robeson, first daughter of Joseph Bellows.

In 1815 she had married Major Jonas Robeson, merchant of Fitzwilliam, a widower with four children in their teens, two girls and two boys. Major Robeson died only six years after their marriage, leaving her with a boy and a girl of her own also. After her step-children married, she returned to Walpole and shortly afterward planned and had Levi Hubbard build this house, the first of its type in Walpole designed for a small family. In its plan she retained the dignity, true worth and charm characteristic of the larger colonial homes of her time.

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“On the night of Mrs. Robeson’s death it so happened that there was to be a brilliant torch light procession to encourage the election of Abraham Lincoln for president (first campaign). Every house around the Common was to be brightly lighted. As the twilight settled down, she asked why her windows were not lighted. When it was explained that she would perhaps rest better in a dimly lighted room, she smiled and said, ‘Let every pane of glass in every window of this house be lighted at once if there are candles enough in town to do it.’” She died before morning.

In 1862 the property was sold to Frederick Vose who lived there with his sister Miss Catherine. In 1876 Jonas Tufts, who had previously lived on Prospect, acquired the property. He had come from South Charlestown, having owned there a large brick house which stood on the meadow. His wife was Sarah Labaree, descendant of Peter Labaree who was captured by the Indians with the Johnson family in 1754 and taken to Canada, and sister of Rev. Benjamin Labaree who was president of Middlebury College for 20 years and who lived next door in 1880-83. Mr. Tufts has been described as parsimonious. The girls in the family had but one summer silk among them; Clara had that because she was marrying Rufus Buffum. Susan and her mother blossomed out after Jonas died. Martha Tufts Bandell lived here, the last of the Tufts family to live in town. In 1932 the property was sold to P. Lucile Hawley, a schoolteacher who was interested in antiques. As the wife of Alba M. Bragg she lived here and in the barn had her Treasure Loft, dealing in antiques and colonial wallpaper. In 1943 P. Lucile Hawley Bragg sold to Frances Hicks.

2. HAROLD O. PIERCE: While Mrs. Bragg owned #1 she bought Robert Moore’s cottage in Westmoreland, had it carefully taken apart and set up here, replacing parts that had deteriorated. In 1946 she sold to Harold O. and Louise F. Pierce.

In 1823 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold to Nathaniel Holland all of that tract of land surrounded by Main, Turnpike, Elm and Westminster Streets except the following: the Lincoln lot on the north, the Stephen Rice and Robeson lots on Elm Street. Included were “buildings thereon and being same premises Holland now occupies as a tavern containing three acres, excepting a lease for erecting and maintaining hay scales”. Holland sold in 1833 to George Huntington who was then occupying the tavern stand, and Huntington sold off lots along Westminster Street, and north of the tavern on Main Street.

3. GUY H. BEMIS: In 1833 George Huntington sold this lot to Aaron P. Howland, a skillful carpenter and cabinet-maker who built this brick



house and sold it in 1842 to Anson Dale. Otis Bardwell, who had lived in Mabel Cole's house #27 on North Main Street for 25 years, bought the house in 1844 and moved here with his second wife. In 1886 his heirs sold to Alfred W. Burt; George F. Burt inherited the property, after which it was sold to Jennie M. Spaulding (Mrs. Frank A.) in 1895. Their son Russell S. Spaulding sold in 1938 to Guy Bemis.

4. CHESTER R. WING: George Huntington sold in 1834 to Jonathan Weymouth, tailor, who probably built the two-story brick house, although some say that Silas M. Bates built it. The former seems more likely since there was a house here during Weymouth's ownership, according to deeds. He mortgaged to David Buffum who took possession in 1837, selling in 1845 to Abel Bellows; in 1854 to Silas M. Bates. In 1874, when an elaborate trust was set up and the Henry Griswolds (Eliza A.) lived here, it came to be known as the Griswold place. In 1891 the property came to Anna Griswold Hale (Mrs. Charles) who had removed to Benson, Minnesota. She sold in 1891 to Benjamin E. Webster; 1895 to Abbie M. Lebourveau; 1905 to Mrs. Addie M. Cole (widow); 1916 to Violet G. Wilson; 1932 to Marion and Reginald Cahalane; 1934 to Josiah Wilson (Violet G.) of Claremont; 1939 to Savings Bank of Walpole; 1939 to Anson H. Kendall whose widow Dorothy B. Kendall sold 1946 to George and Shirley A. Morton; 1948 to Robert L. and Dorothy N. Galloway; 1949 to Norma Lee Varzos who died; 1957 Edward Varzos, widower, sold to Mary Louise Wing. For some years it was used as an annex to the Walpole Inn and is now made into apartments.

5. ROBERT GALLOWAY—TIN SHOP LOT: In 1833 George Huntington sold to A. P. Howland the land next east of #4 including tin shop and village store; in 1835 Howland to Susan Jones 19 ft. running east from the passageway between this lot and #4. Howland already had a tin shop here. Susan Jones married David Strader, removed to Kane County, Illinois. She sold in 1845 to Charles Lord of Walpole. In 1847 he had removed to Westmoreland (wife, Julia Ann) and sold to Haskell Buffum of Westmoreland; 1849 to Seth B. Cragin (Susan M.); 1853 to Silas M. Bates; 1885 his estate to John C. Howard; 1892 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1900 to Fred F. Chandler; 1914 to Fred A. Metcalf and Clarence W. Houghton; 1921 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1927 to Charles W. Morse; 1927 to Adolphus R. Stevens; 1940 to Galloway-Ratte Company, now Galloway.

The shop was leased much of the time. In 1873 L. U. Holt sold his stock of tinware and stoves to B. P. Owen, who lived upstairs. His wife was an illiterate woman prone to use of words beyond her ken, such as,

“Every woman in town will prostitute herself on your steps.” Owen was followed by Sterling who for many years sold ranges, furnaces, stoves, pumps, lead pipe, kitchen furnishings, tin, copper and sheet iron ware, was agent for American Papier-Mâché wares, and did jobbing tin and sheet metal work. His wife had a very stout sister who visited her from time to time, and who was known as “The Great Eastern.”

In 1877 Blaisdell and Barley put into Owen’s tin shop one of their elevating refrigerators, useful in summer with ice, in winter without, making easy communication with cellar.

The express office was formerly in a building back of the shop, destroyed by fire in 1881.

6. RANDALL P. DANIELS: Village Store—In 1842 A. P. Howland sold to William C. Sherman and Amherst K. Maynard; 1851 Sherman sold out to Maynard; 1884 Maria G. Maynard to Mary E. and Lizzie M. Maynard; 1885 to John C. Howard who also owned the tin shop next west. In 1891 he sold to Edward A. Knowlton; 1891 and 1895 to Charles H. Cannon of Providence. In 1903 Cannon sold to George F. Chandler and Carrie L. Knowlton (Mrs. Warren D.), Cannon having moved to Redlands, California; 1925 and 1929 to Emma S. Graves; 1962 to Randall Daniels. (C. R. Wing had the store previously.)

This was for many years A. K. Maynard’s boot and shoe store. Upstairs he had several men employed in manufacturing his stock. He was postmaster through many administrations (Democratic), losing the position when Lincoln was elected president. Because of ill-health he sold his stock in 1873. In January 1877 there was a fire here. At that time the Hinds family was occupying the upstairs tenement, S. J. Armstrong the boot and shoe store on the first floor, and Albert Knight was a cobbler here then. The premises were in bad repute at that time. After the fire Chandler and Lebourveau opened a meat market. In 1879 William B. Clark opened a furniture store here after being burned out in Charlestown. The same year Herod W. Brown opened an oyster saloon in the basement, serving nothing stronger than tea or coffee.

While Howard owned the building, he made a dancing hall upstairs for his wife who was a dancing teacher. Howard had a drug store here with Natt Wheeler of Bellows Falls, operating it 1894-98.

The Knowltons had a jewelry shop and did watch repairing. Later for many years this was the Peck Drug Store. The present proprietor operates a lunch counter and sells groceries and general merchandise.

7. WALPOLE FIRE DISTRICT: The lot next east Mrs. Emma Graves sold in



1952 for the erection of the new fire station which stands back from the street on the site of the old livery stable.

8. GEORGE R. HARRIS—THRIFT SHOP (formerly Leaf & Lens): In 1853 James L. Mitchell of Albany, New York, bought land here from George Huntington. The building that was formerly William Mitchell's barber shop, and later John W. Lovejoy's store, and had been located on the site of the bank on the south side of Westminster Street, was moved here. Lovejoy was still occupying the store in 1867. He was considered a disagreeable man but the gravity of his demeanor is said to have been due to chronic ill-health.

In 1883 the Mitchell Estate sold to Thomas Dinsmore of Alstead who owned the hotel lot; 1897 to John A. Weber. His family had come to Walpole when he was a child and lived at #281 (Lawrence Graves). After attending No. 9 School, he continued at Bryant & Stratton Business College in Manchester. During the summers he worked on the farm and in the winter taught penmanship. He commenced business in Walpole in 1893 in the Ordway Block, buying C. C. Davis' printing outfit. In 1897 he bought this building and expanded his printing business and stock of merchandise: confectionery, stationery, tinware, notions. In March 1926 he went downstairs after a hod of coal. The effort exhausted him, and he remarked to Mr. Kenyon, "I guess that was too much for me," and died instantly. He was a Unitarian, a staunch prohibitionist, and treasurer of the Grange for 25 years. His wife was a descendant of John Wier and the Moses Burt family.

In 1926 Fred A. Metcalf bought the property with Reginald F. Cahalane. By 1931 Cahalane was sole owner of the property which was purchased by Russell S. Spaulding in 1933, he selling to the present owner in 1946. W. W. Shackley had had a barber shop here for 35 years.

For many years Ransom Ball had his shoe store here. The post office and library were in the back of the store. During the early 1870's Warren P. Chapin, photographer, had his studio upstairs. Today there is a barber shop upstairs.

9. BERNARD P. O'CONNER, RUTH M. LATHAM—TAVERN LOT: In 1838 George Huntington was leasing the tavern on the corner of Westminster and Main Streets to Justus W. Brown. He sold in 1854 to Calvin J. Holden (Caroline A.); 1855 to Elijah Holbrook of Surry (wife, Eliza Ann); 1860 to George R. Makepeace (Emeline D.); February 1865 to Henry Justin Stowell of Boston; December 1865 to Morgan J. Sherman (Sarah S.); 1866 to Horace A. Perry; 1877 to George E. Richards of Winchester, N. H., and Willie M.

Moore of Northfield, Mass.; 1878 to Charles G. Maynard; 1888 to Thomas Dinsmore of Boston, Mass.; 1903 Dinsmore Estate to Mary C. T. Fay of Milton, Mass.; 1904 to George E. Sherman; 1916 to John A. Gould and Frank A. Moore; 1923 to Grade D. Fisher of Medford, Mass., who mortgaged to former owners; mortgage foreclosed 1926 and Moore interests sold to Edward F. and Bernard P. O'Connor of Rockingham, Vermont; 1949 to Bernard P. O'Connor. In 1950 O'Connor leased part of the property to Gulf Oil Corporation for filling station. In 1952 Bernard P. and Mary L. O'Connor sold to Marion G. and Edward F. Reardon the land and small building in back. In 1955 Reardon took over the oil business and gas station which had been erected here, buying from O'Connor, and in 1957 bought the property where the postoffice is, the north part of the lot on Main Street. 1959 Bernard P. and Mary O'Conner purchased. The north part of the building is occupied by the postoffice and the south part is used for a restaurant and a self-service laundry, the latter having been established in 1960. 1961 restaurant-postoffice building sold to Ruth M. Latham.

In 1858 there was a drug store on the corner. Around 1874 the hotel was refurbished and there was a bowling alley in back.

10. AMY N. YANIZYN: The brick building, now Yanizyn, and the house next north are on land out of the old tavern lot, northeast corner, sold out of the old lot. In 1853 Huntington sold to James M. Burroughs, wheelwright, the land where the brick building, which Burroughs probably built, stands; 1855 to Thomas Murphy (Mary Ann). In 1858 he bought a small piece of property on the south from Holbrook who then owned the tavern property. Murphy, who was a blacksmith, and had his shop in the brick building, sold in 1865 to Israel Stowell (Achseh); 1866 to Ira Hooper (Ellen F.); 1867 to Lenas Hopkins of Westmoreland including all stock in trade (blacksmith tools); 1872 estate to Hubbard Newton; 1877 to DeWitt Clinton Ordway; 1916 (Ordway of Waltham) to Alexander Bain; 1944 to Jacob and Amy N. Yanizyn. She now owns the dwelling.

Mrs. Ordway was a Grant from Alstead, a bit peculiar; son Clinton was wont to play his violin and sing off key. The shop was rented much of the time. In 1873 B. P. Dickinson of Colebrook, carriage-painter, opened a shop over G. W. Blake's blacksmith shop. This was closed August 1874. Willard & Holton opened a wheelwright shop March 1875. In November 1883 Raymond of Keene opened an oyster saloon in the basement and installed a new pool table in the front room. The dedication extended into the early hours of Sunday morning, the dedicators seeming to have partaken of something stronger than oyster broth.



11. EMMA M. REED: In 1834 George Huntington sold the northeast corner of his tavern lot, 41 feet along Main Street, 50 feet deep, to Parks Marvin who had a cabinet shop here in 1835. In 1836 Marvin sold to John S. Gallup, physician, who had a horse, gig and cow; 1836 to Stephen Woodbury; 1838 to Aaron P. Howland; 1842 to Abel Bellows who rented the house in 1853 to Monroe and 1855 to Thos. Taine; 1855 to Thomas Murphy who probably lived here and had his blacksmith shop next south; 1858 to Hubbard Newton; 1859 Newton made over the place to Fannie L. Wheeler of the south part of town, whom he subsequently married; 1893 to Nancy (Mrs. Henry) Podwin; 1897 to Dennis J. Griffin; 1899 his estate to Carl Smith; 1901 to Frank A. Spaulding; 1931 to Andrew Heath; 1934 to Newell G. Holden who sold to Elizabeth (Mrs. Everett) MacNutt that same year; 1942 to Ernest A. and Emma MacNutt Reed, Mrs. Reed coming into possession at the death of Mr. Reed.

## TURNPIKE STREET

In 1791 John Crafts, trader, sold to Samuel Grant, saddler, one acre 37 rods which extended west from Main Street, next north of the Murphy-Reed house. There was no Turnpike then. Crafts had a shop on Main Street a rod north of the southeast corner of the lot, probably the shop that is near Mabel Cole's house (#27). In 1801 Grant sold to William Pierce, shoemaker. In 1821 Evi Pierce of Winchester, guardian of Harriot King Pierce and Oliver B. Pierce of Keene, minors, sold the real estate of the late William Pierce of Keene to Christopher Lincoln.

Lincoln was a tailor who had come from Boston in 1818 and set up business in the shop formerly occupied by Mr. Williston in the chamber over the Walpole Book Store. In October 1830, returning from Court at Keene with a party, he was thrown from a wagon at the foot of the hill coming down into Christian Hollow and received such injuries that he died October 11. The family continued to live in Walpole for 20 years. In 1834 Eliza Lincoln sold to Abel Bellows the east point of her land on the Turnpike; 1835 to Eleanor Blake; 1868 to Henry W. S. Griswold; 1868 to Silas M. Bates.

Jason and Francis French, carriage makers, bought the following on the south side of Turnpike: in 1842 a carriage shop next west of the Lincolns'; in 1844 a little sliver out of the northwest corner of Lincolns', including their house; in 1845 a quarter acre next east, the full depth of the Lincoln lot. In 1847 Francis bought out Jason's share in the business of carriage and sleigh making. They recommended the Concord wagon for business and pleasure. According to *AH* 107 the French brothers were

carrying on carriage manufacture in the second floor of Reed's tannery when it burned September 1847. In February 1848 we note that, having been burned out at his old carriage and sleigh shop, Francis French was reopening at a new stand opposite Pool's blacksmith shop. He needed two journeymen. This would have been at the site we have been discussing. In the 1850 census he was listed as a sleigh and carriage maker in Walpole. Francis and Julia French sold the property here in 1854 to Alanson D. Comstock (Mary S.); in 1855 to Silas M. Bates.

The carriage shop, which belonged to George C. Ewing, was new in 1834.

He had in this shop in 1836 the following: one 12-passenger coach, one coach body, one chaise, one waggon, two fancy buggies, two plain buggies, eight unfinished fancy buggies, four unfinished plain buggies, four unfinished waggons, two unfinished barouches, two two-seat unfinished buggies, two single sleighs, one Pedler's waggon, two common harnesses, three fancy harnesses; boards, timber and wood in yard; stock, lumber, timber in barn; stock (trimmings) in house; stock in trimming shop; stock, paints, oils, tools in paint shop; stock and tools in wood shop, together with tools in blacksmith shop. He was still in business here in 1840, but he may have lost—he was borrowing heavily.

In 1842 Abel Bellows began selling the property to the Frenches.

All of the Lincoln and French property eventually came into the ownership of Silas Bates and/or Benjamin Aldrich in connection with their shirt factory. On the 1858 map the following places are shown (east to west): Miss Blake (Gilman now, #12); G. Fuller (Larsen now, #13); H. A. Hitchcock carriage and paint shop, opposite the west end of North Street. There are no deeds here to Hitchcock, he must have leased from Silas Bates. Next west is marked Bates. Both are shown as fairly long buildings, side to the street. One was probably the old carriage shop. Bates and Aldrich formed a partnership for the manufacture of shirts and had the following buildings here.

On the present Odd Fellows lot there were the Laundry and Shirt Factory and to the south the Engine House, both close to the west line. The steam engine also furnished power for the grist mill, a building some 22 feet long in the southwest corner of the Larsen lot (#13). The boarding house stood on the lot next west, now Kittredge, #15.

After the shirt business failed in 1876, there was a new deal of lots as follows:

12. WILLOBE GILMAN: The east point of the Lincoln property, south side of Turnpike, Silas M. Bates sold in 1869 to Marcellus O. Jennings; 1873 to Hubbard B. Newton; 1880 to Jane, Anna J. and Lizzie S. Hitchcock;



1884 to Frances A. Griffin; 1894 her heirs Ella J. Bond and Frances A. Mann, daughters, sold to Julia Rogers; 1896 to Abbie E. Chappell; 1923 her widower, David C. King, to Everett L. Houghton; 1926 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1931 to Willobé F. Gilman.

13. HARRY J. LARSEN: This was the Lincoln cottage. In 1877 Silas M. Bates and Benjamin F. Aldrich sold a quarter-acre here, next west of Gilman lot, to Marcia E. Allen; 1890 her heirs to Samuel E. Hubbard; 1928 his heirs to Harry Larsen, a grandson-in-law of Samuel E. Hubbard. All of this piece was out of the Lincoln land.

14. MOUNT KILBURN LODGE, I.O.O.F.: In 1882 Silas M. Bates sold to Nora Walsh the old shirt factory buildings (reserving the washing machine, ironing machine, starching machine and stone sinks). Thomas Walsh had previously had the blacksmith shop on north side of street which was in bad shape when they bought this property. He fixed up the engine house as a new shop. He had served his apprenticeship in Cork, had come to America in 1872, had worked for several years in New York and Boston, and then had come to Walpole. His temper is said to have been the biggest part of him. In November 24, 1886, while he was at work with several customers around, fire of unknown origin broke out in the upper part of the blacksmith shop. The shop and ell of the house were consumed; the main part of the house was saved (old laundry building) but damaged by fire and smoke. He rebuilt. In 1888 he rented to Charles Andrews and removed to Bellows Falls. William Warren was occupying when the Walshes sold 1894 to Alexander Rattray; 1894 to Frank J. Griffin; 1907 to Edwin K. Seabury; 1912 his estate to Michael W. Murray of Newton, Massachusetts; 1916 to Mt. Kilburn Lodge, I.O.O.F., who occupied the old laundry building which the Walshes had turned halfway around in 1882.

15. ARTHUR J. KITTREDGE: Next west of the I.O.O.F. property Silas Bates sold in 1883 to Edwin K. Seabury. In 1884 Seabury sold to Dennis Griffin the old boarding house building and ell to make into a dwelling, according to a news item, but other sources say it was torn down. In 1923 the Griffin Estate sold to William E. Pierce; 1923 to Andrew C. Griffin; 1925 to Batt Reil; 1928 to Mary Sullivan Reil. In 1940 Mortimer J. and William J. Sullivan had inherited the property from their mother, Mary Sullivan Reil, and sold in 1935 to Mary E. Mason; 1944 to Robert A. and Barbara Lee Nash; 1950 to Walter C. Jr. and Florence E. Kilburn; 1956 to Arthur J. and Ruth E. Kittredge.

16. JOHN J. LAWLOR: This was the northeast part of a lot Dr. Ebenezer Morse and Esther Morse sold in 1818 to William Mitchell; 1821 to Stephen Rowe Bradley; 1821 to David Danforth, blacksmith, who lived on the west side of the lot (maybe he had a shop here); 1832 to Otis Bardwell; 1834 to George Ewing. Ewing built a carriage shop on the east part of the lot and sold 1837 to William Robbins. On the 1858 map there is a house here facing on Turnpike Street, marked Mrs. Robbins. In 1870 her heirs to Herod W. Brown; 1881 Savings Bank foreclosed and sold 1885 to Mrs. Rosa Punt; 1905, she having married John E. Hartwell, they sold to George A. Weston of Bellows Falls; 1906 to Horace A. Perry; 1912 to Copley Amory of New York City. This was mortgaged to the Savings Bank and the bank seems to have owned it for several years. It is not clear how Mary Sullivan Reil obtained, but her sons Mortimer J. and William J. Sullivan inherited and in 1940 deeded to William's wife Regina A. Sullivan; 1944 to Basil T. and Anna Belle Murray; 1946 to John J. and Dorothy Taylor Lawlor.

#### WEST SIDE OF TURNPIKE—MEAD MILL AREA, OUT OF CRAFTS LAND:

##### MEAD MILL

17. IRENE E. GOODWIN (south part of lot)

MAINE B. GILBERT (north part of lot)

John Crafts bargained gristmill and pondage rights to Aaron Hodgskins, carpenter, and the Crafts estate gave him a deed 1793. Hodgskins apparently built a mill and a house, but removed to Newfane, Vermont, selling in 1796 to Abraham Holland and Justin Hinds; 1799 to Aquilla Russell; 1803 to Elijah Russell, the property then being specified as a gristmill; 1807 to Moses Mead who lost it in 1817 to Amasa Allen who sold to Ebenezer Morse. *AH* 326 says of Mead:

"He purchased a plot of land north of the village and built a gristmill, where grain was ground for many years for the townspeople. In connection with his milling business he manufactured rakes, which business was subsequently carried on by his son David. His rakes were of a superior manufacture and were in demand wherever known."

In 1838 Augustus Faulkner bought a "shop" here from the Ebenezer Morses; 1858 to Thomas J. Pierce.

The north part of the lot went 1879 to Lyman Chandler of Alstead; 1886 to Edwin Seabury for \$11; 1889 to Charles E. Andrews; 1890 to Frank E. Leeman, blacksmith shop; 1891 to Fred A. Lebourveau, and



Alvin Colburn fixed over into a woodworking shop; 1892 to William J. Hall; 1913 to Charles M. Russell, wheelwright; 1927 to Maine B. Gilbert who had a wheelwright shop here as late as 1941; the building is still standing, though tired.

The south part of the lot sold in 1870 to David Russell who had a basket manufacturing shop; 1879 to Edwin Seabury; 1885 to William J. Hall, who restored antiques and made coffins; 1923 to Wallace E. Graves; 1941 to Harry G. Russell; 1953 to Irene E. Biagiotti. In later years this was a dwelling and was nearly destroyed by fire in February 1961.

18. MARSHALL E. PUTNAM: The Mead deeds are confusing, but it is safe to say that the house which Marshall E. Putnam now has was the old Mead House. Moses Mead, Sr., lived here as did his widow Lezee Viles Mead after him. Moses, Jr., died in 1818 and Moses, Sr., in 1819 when David Mead, brother and son, acquired the property. His heirs, none of whom lived in Walpole, sold 1881 to David Buffum; 1884 to Elizabeth Wells, widow of Edward; 1931 to her daughter Sarah (Sally) Frances Runyon, widow of John F. of Morristown, N. J. (she came home to take care of her mother); 1944 to her brother Herbert E. Wells, reserving life use; 1945 to Gustave W. and Mary C. Bailey; 1946 to Leon R. and Harriet S. Bugbee; 1951 to Marshall E. and Virginia H. Putnam.

19. HOLLIS G. CHANDLER: In 1844 Josiah Bellows sold to Clarissa Mead a four-rod square houselot in the southwest corner of his land on the east side of Rt. 12 north of the village. Her daughter Maria Louisa Cooke of Keene sold 1881 to George B. Holland. Clarissa was the 11th child of Moses Mead.

In 1891 Holland sold to Charles H. Roundy, blacksmith. In 1898 May L. Roundy sold to David D. Roundy of Gilsum; 1898 to Herbert D. Gale; 1917 to Charles S. Hawks; 1919 to Henry P. Marsh; 1924 to Joseph B. Gray; 1927 to Alice B. Duffy of Keene; 1927 (with Frank E. Duffy, both of Waterbury, Conn.) to Bellows Falls Saving Institute; 1940 to Fred Wille of Bridgeport, Conn.; 1941 to Fred A. Ramsay (Wille having died); 1942 to Glenna B. and Hollis G. Chandler.

20. WALTER C. KILBURN: Josiah Bellows sold one-half acre here on the west side of the Turnpike to Aaron K. Chase in 1837; Chase in 1838 to Thomas J. Pierce, carpenter, who probably built the house. He died 1905 and his widow Eliza J. or Jane E. (son Wilson C. lived with her) sold 1906 to William Mitchell; 1912 to Ernest A. Stowell; 1920 to Hattie E. Graves; 1930 her estate to Walter C. and Victoria E. Kilburn.

21. WALPOLE SCHOOL DISTRICT: Next north on the west side of the highway and south of the hatchery is the school lot, high school and elementary. This was part of the Josiah Bellows estate and was purchased by James L. Mitchell from the Estate. He sold to Albert F. Nims who owned a year, cutting off the oak woods (1883-4); then to Dennis Griffin who raised tobacco here and built a barn in 1892; his son Andrew Griffin had it after him, then Arthur G. Griffin who sold 1945 to Town of Walpole.

#### ELM STREET, NORTH TO SOUTH, EAST SIDE

In 1818 Dr. Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold 7 rods along the east side of Elm Street south from the Turnpike to William Mitchell; 1821 to Stephen Rowe Bradley; 1821 to David Danforth, blacksmith, who lived here, probably #23; 1832 to Otis Bardwell; 1834 to George C. Ewing. He built a carriage shop on the east part of the lot which he sold to Robbins. The west part of the lot he sold in 1838 to William Bellows and Philip Peck; 1852 to William Ruggles; 1852 to Hiram Hefflon. In 1858 there was a paint shop in the north corner of the lot. In 1862 Hiram Hefflon removed to Jay, Vermont, and sold to Moses Wright (Fidelia).

22. ROBERT S. BARRETT: In 1864 the Wrights sold the north part of the lot to Dennis Griffin who built a house, lived there, large family—worst looking place, always smelled of cabbage (Weymouth); 1884 to Edwin K. Seabury; 1886 to Frances H. Farr; 1905 to Edwin K. Seabury; 1906 to Samuel M. Seabury; 1912 to Mary M. Sweeney; 1930 to Richard Sweeney; 1935 to John C. and Lillian H. Pheur (he ran the First National Store and she had a beauty shop, North Walpole people); 1942 to Robert S. and Helen E. Kilburn Barrett.

23. EVERETT E. HOUGHTON: In 1864 the Wrights sold the south part of their lot to Aaron P. Howland; 1868 his heirs to Oliver Martin; 1870 to Alura Nichols who had lived in the Valley until after her husband died; 1888 to Rhoda A. Knapp, wife of Richard Knapp. He was a skillful tailor who sat by the window and sewed all day. His wife helped him with the work and their son Henry became a good tailor although drink bothered him. Richard Knapp was also a barber. Although over-age, he served in the First N. H. Volunteers, returned to Charlestown, and in 1870 came to Walpole. Of their four sons, George R. served in the Fourteenth N. H. Volunteers for three years. He was assistant postmaster for two years. Charles was a travelling salesman. In May 1904, he bought a horse. Thoughtful friends, during the night, drew down from the car-



riage house at the Knapp Homestead on Wentworth Road the ancient one-horse chaise and left it in his back yard. With a little repairing it might last another hundred years. He had enlisted in the Fourteenth N. H. Volunteers in 1863, served to the end of the war, and died at the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea, Mass., in 1919.

In 1928 the Knapp heirs sold to Anna M. Warren, wife of John C. Warren, who had come from Maine to take charge of the woodworking shops connected with the Abeniqui Machine Shop at Westminster. After his death his son Lester of Ogunquit, Maine, sold the place in 1943 to Esther M. and Everett E. Houghton.

24. MAURICE FAIRBANKS: In 1869 while Oliver Martin owned the lot above he sold off the south side to Mary O. Pierce; 1888 to Henry A. and Hattie E. Henry; 1889 to Lydia A. Fuller; 1892 to Estella S. and Ella M. Wilbur; 1892 Ella's share to Estella; 1907 to Mary Jane Kiniry; 1933 to her daughter Mary Catherine Kiniry; 1947 Mary Catherine Kiniry Jeffrey to Maurice and Elaine Jeffrey Fairbanks.

25. CAROLA M. GRAVES: *AH* 78 gives the impression that the Stephen Rice house, next south on Elm Street, was built before 1800, but the deeds do not bear this out. In 1818 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold this lot to Stephen Rice, who seems to have lost title to the property for awhile, but regained it in 1823. In 1846 he had died, and Aura Rice had sold to Thomas Russell (Eliza) of Woodstock, Vt., and Charles S. Rice of Dorchester, Mass., probably his son. The whole thing is rather confused because there is no mention of the relationship of Aura. There is a record that she joined the church in 1812, and died in 1844. There is also a note that Stephen Rice was insolvent and that George Allen was settling his estate. In 1849 the Russells sold to Henry O. Clark (Hanna); 1856 to Samuel Derby Learned, master carpenter (wife Cynthia P.), who later owned on School Street; 1864 to Curtis Stearns; 1868 his heirs to Samuel W. Bradford. Through the years Mr. Bradford was described as a merchant-tailor, a farmer, a carpenter, and as being in meat and provision business. His wife was Sarah, known as Aunt Sarah, youngest daughter of Elisha Hooper. In 1874 Bradford sold to Harriet M. Stoddard (related to Ira Hubbard's mother); 1883 to William J. Hall, who had gone from the Plain on the Upper Road to Ludlow, Vt., then back to Walpole. He was here many years, had a cabinet shop, was an undertaker; 1916 to Charlie A. Watkins; 1925 to Lewis J. and Ida M. Wright; 1926 to Rosaline M. Slade; 1928 to Lawrence O. Thompson from Berlin, N. H.; 1943 to Carola M. Jeffrey, now Carola M. Jeffrey Graves. It is now occupied

by Ralph and Doris Brainard who came here from Colebrook. Ralph Brainard is a Pharmacist.

26. FLOYD M. SMITH: In 1854 Susan Robeson sold this lot out of her land on the corner of Westminster and Elm Streets to Aaron P. and Huldah B. Howland and they erected buildings; 1864 to Dares A. and Lucinda S. DeWolf; 1865 to Eliphalet K. Webster who left it to Mary J. Bemis. She and Cyrus H. Bemis sold in 1872 to Levi A. Hall; 1880 to Winslow G. Barnett; 1909 his estate to Lucy M. Fuller. She died 1915 and her daughter, Emma F. Bartlett, widow, came home to take care of her father, William Fuller, and inherited the property, selling 1931 to Fred A. Lebourveau; his estate in 1934 to Floyd M. and Lillian G. Smith, service man for Hubbards' Hatchery. They created a joint tenancy with their daughter M. Elinor Hamill in 1955.

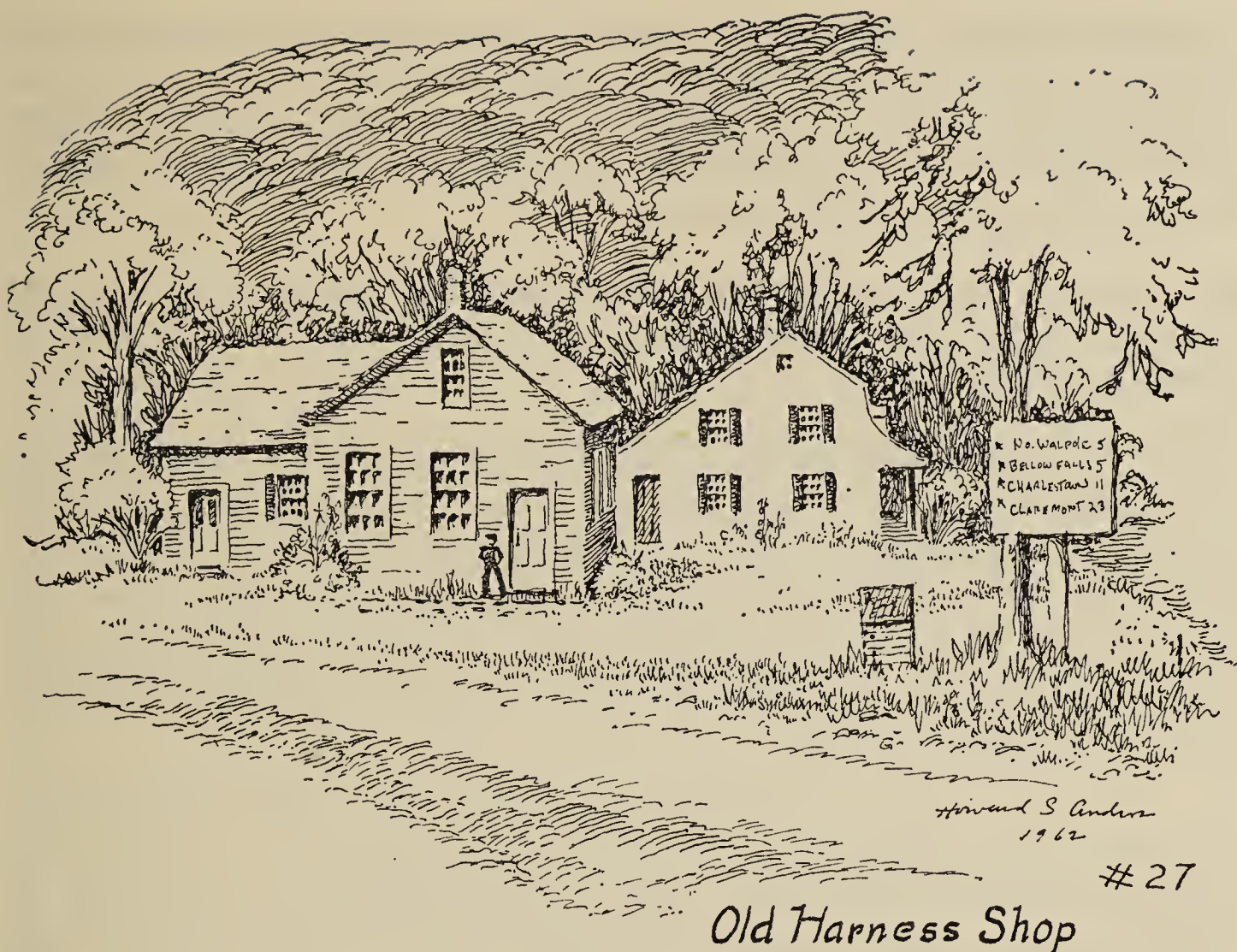
The Winslow Barnetts lived here for many years, she a fussy invalid who was confident she was going to Heaven to see her twin sister Mary.

#### TRIANGLE BOUNDED BY NORTH MAIN STREET, NORTH STREET, TURNPIKE STREET

27. MABEL COLE: In 1760 James Ball sold to Asa Baldwin. In 1767 Asa Baldwin had sold this property to Samuel Chase; 1773 Solomon Chase to Ebenezer Swan one acre (eight rods on Main Street); 1783 to Daniel Loring including potash works, kettles, etc. In 1784 Stephen Fuller of Chester, Vt., cordwainer, sold to Asahel Goodenow of East Sudbury, Mass. "a certain shoemaker's shop about 14 feet in length, 12 feet wide and 7 feet post, said shop standing on Benjamin Bellows' land in Walpole and on road leading from Charlestown to Westmoreland. . . ." In 1785 Loring sold to Goodenow one-half of his land above "also one-half the building on it and one-half of two broken potash kettles." Aaron Emes of Keene obtained a judgment against Goodenow and sold 1786 to George Sparhawk; 1788 to John Crafts; 1791 to Samuel Grant, saddler; 1801 to William Pierce. The new Third N. H. Turnpike cut the piece in two and Pierce sold in November 1801 that part northeast of the Turnpike to Thomas and Isaac Redington; 1820 to Otis Bardwell who also bought a narrow strip on the north from Dr. and Mrs. Morse.

Bardwell lived here for 25 years. He came to Walpole from Massachusetts, commenced the stage business, began as driver and became operator, owning with George Huntington the important lines centering in Walpole. He had a stable here and in 1832 bought the blacksmith shop on the north side of North and Turnpike Streets.





### *Old Harness Shop*

After Bardwell, the next owner was his sister, Sarah B. Pool (Mrs. John). They owned the whole triangle. After John Pool's death, Sarah bought the interests of the other heirs. The whole Triangle is now four properties.

In 1861 Mrs. Pool sold to Henry Allen what is now the Cole place. He lived here and carried on a livery and harness business with his son, Henry P., a dealer in horses and a manufacturer of harness. The other heirs sold their interests to Henry P. Allen who sold in 1892 to Katherine A. Weymouth and removed to Everett, Mass. Mrs. Weymouth left the property to Katherine Keefe; 1930 to Walpole Historical Society. While Emily Jennison was curator she used the shop as a museum. In 1947 the Society sold the property to Mabel R. Cole.

This house was probably built by Asa Baldwin by 1762, and was occupied by Ephraim Baldwin. George Weymouth built modern chimneys in 1894.

28. GEORGE H. HURLBURT: In 1843 Otis Bardwell had sold to his brother-in-law, John Pool, the west part of the triangle (6 rods on North Street). In 1860 Mrs. Pool sold this to Ephraim Barker (Lydia) of Granby, Mass., with the dwelling house and barn; 1866 to Harvey Ball; 1871 to Cath-

erine W. Kendall; 1884 to Lizzie M. Chapin (Mrs. Herbert); 1910 to William J. Hall. He seems to have used the barn for storage and an undertaking shop. He sold the west part of the property to Cora B. Hill in 1921; 1932 to Newell G. Holden; 1937 to Mary F. Holden; 1957 to George H. and Joanne H. Hurlburt.

29. **MATT L. NASH:** In 1921 William J. Hall sold the northeast part of his property to Matt Nash, on the south side of North Street. This included the barn.

30. **JOHN H. HOWARD:** In 1922 William J. Hall sold the southeast part of his property to Ida L. Howard, including the undertaker's shop. She left half of this property to Ruby M. Howard who sold to John H. Howard in 1957, he owning the other half by inheritance from Ida L. Howard. Both 29 and 30 have been converted into dwellings. These must have been the old stable buildings but the deeds do not indicate that this property belonged to Allen.

31. **TOWN OF WALPOLE:** In 1822 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold a quarter-acre on the north side at the junction of North and Turnpike Streets to David Danforth, blacksmith, "said Danforth agreeing not to turn in cattle or occupy said premises as a pasture until he fences it." He sold 1832 to Otis Bardwell. In 1843 Bardwell sold to his brother-in-law, John H. Pool, who kept the blacksmith shop here and lived in the house in the south point of the triangle between Turnpike and North Streets. The first shop, which was of wood, burned, and Pool rebuilt it of brick. Mrs. Pool sold in 1860 to Ephraim Barker of Granby, Mass.; 1877 to Ephraim W. Barker; 1885 (Ephraim W. then of Winchester, N. H.) to Lyman G. Fales of Easthampton, Mass.; 1886 to Sarah G. Hale; 1888 to Town of Walpole which used it as a lockup. This was demolished in 1952 by a highway crew. After this, a steel cage in the basement of the Town Hall was used as the lockup; now prisoners are taken to Keene or the County Farm.

32. **WAYNE D. POLLEY:** In 1845 John Poole sold to Abner Wheeler a small piece west of the blacksmith shop, where Wheeler probably built the house; 1888 his heirs sold to Charles W. Potter; 1894 to Horace A. Perry; 1897 to Ulysses Riley; 1902 Riley Estate to Horace A. Perry; 1904 to Alexander Rattray; 1905 to Ida L. Howard; 1919 to John Wallace Burbee; 1932 to Alice E. Burbee; 1938 to Annie M. Riley; 1943 to Mabel C. Howard; 1952 to Daniel F. Potter; 1958 Savings Bank to Marjorie M. Wilson; 1958 to Wayne and Eleanor T. Polley.



33. LYDIA M. BEACH: NEXT EAST OF BRICK SHOP #31: In 1887 Lyman G. Fales sold this house, which had been a part of the shop lot, to Nora Walsh; 1890 to Abbie Chappell; 1891 to Hiram Hicks; 1894 to Fred Prentiss; 1903 to John W. Prentiss; 1909 to Frank A. Spaulding; 1927 to Lydia M. Beach.

34. DONALD E. MACK: In 1825 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold to Moses W. Hammond a lot running north from North Street 5 rods along Main Street and 15 rods deep; 1826 to Daniel W. Bisco; 1831 to George Kilburn. The Kilburns had two houses and were living here in 1834, Elijah in what is now the Rogers house and George in the Brewster house. In 1834 George Kilburn sold to Lincoln Whitcomb (Emeline R.) the west end of the lot; 1868 to Patrick Drislane, who took care of what is now Mrs. Endicott's place on Wentworth Road. His daughter Lizzie M. Chapin of Alstead inherited the place, sold 1912 to Warren H. and Willis A. Colburn, brothers. In 1945 sold to Elmer J. and Gertrude A. Foss of Newton, Mass.; 1949 to William F. and Gertrude B. Lane; 1953 to Donald E. and Verna R. Mack.

35. AGNES M. BREWSTER: In 1837 George Kilburn assigned the remainder of the property to his creditors and it was sold 1848 to Henry A. Hitchcock, being the east part of the lot. Hitchcock came to Walpole about 1837, engaged in cabinet and furniture business, undertaking, and carriage making. Annie J. Hitchcock, sole surviving heir, sold the place in 1893 to Charles M. Russell; 1907 to Newell I. Gale; 1917 his estate to Cora B. Hill; 1932 Albion F. Hill became joint tenant with Cora B. Hill; 1947 Albion Hill estate to Clifford Chickering; 1947 to Gerald A. and Doris K. Corbett; 1952 to Agnes M. Brewster.

36. PAUL ROGERS: In 1839 Aaron Mansfield bought the rest of the lot; 1841 to James M. Burroughs; 1851 to Thomas Murphy; 1866 to Henry W. Griswold; 1867 to James Benson; 1882 heirs of Benson to Patrick Drislane; 1892 to Emma G. Hinds; 1909 to Clifford L. Sturtevant as trustee; 1929 to Town of Walpole; 1929 to Louisa C. Mousley; 1936 to her daughter Easter L. Mousley Peters; 1939 to M. Alice R. Rogers (husband Paul).

37. GERTRUDE LANE: North of Mrs. Brewster's there is a lane leading to Gertrude Lane's place. This property was formerly part of the Hitchcock property. The west part on which the house stands Henry A. Hitchcock sold in 1848 to James M. Burroughs with a shop thereon "also right of carriage way . . . from Main Street to said premises for 15 years from

date hereof and so much longer as said Hitchcock shop shall be used as a mechanics shop"; 1851 to Thomas and Mary Ann Murphy; 1856 to Bridget O'Connor. She must have built the house (perhaps from the old shop), shown on the 1858 map. She was probably Bridget McNamara, wife of Patrick O'Connor, both born in Ireland. They seem to have had four children: Bridget, born about 1824, who married Edward Griffin and had a son, Patrick Edward (Patsy) born about 1855 who married Hannah Shean; Ann, born about 1826, who married Thomas Lynch, born about 1824; Mary, born about 1827, unmarried; and John, born about 1837, who also married.

Bridget willed the property to John and Mary by 1882, they willed to Patrick E. Griffin and wife Hannah, Mrs. Thomas Lynch, Edward Griffin and wife Bridget. They sold 1897 to Mrs. Mary Carney; 1897 to Frank J. Griffin (he may have been related, probably son of Dennis and Catherine O'Connor Griffin); 1907 to George O. Taggard; 1908 to David Harty; 1928 to Mabel C. Howard; 1944 to James E. Nelson; 1946 to Arthur H. Chickering, Jr.; 1947 to Anna Belle Murray; 1949 to Anthony and Mattie Black of Bellows Falls; 1953 to William and Gertrude Lane. The northeast part of the present property, which includes a barn, came down from Hitchcock by a different series of transactions.

## WEST SIDE NORTH MAIN STREET

38. NANCY HOLLAND HUBBARD: The original north line of Lot #1 in the 4th Range was ten rods south of the corner of the wall north of the Holland-Hubbard house on the west side of North Main Street. In 1760 Benjamin Bellows sold six acres here, a piece 20 rods on the road and 50 rods deep, next north of Ephraim Baldwin, to Israel Calkins "with the appurtenances thereon". When Samuel Chase bought this same lot from John French (Olive) in 1762, there was a house on the lot, the southeast corner of which was five rods south of the north line of the lot. In 1762 Asa Baldwin, who owned the land next south (there is no record that Ephraim ever owned it except references in abutting deeds), bought the ten acres west of Chase to the river, sold to Chase in 1767, along with what he still owned of Lot #1.

In 1776 Chase sold three acres in his northeast corner, ten rods on Main Street and 50 rods deep, to James Russell, maltster; 1790 his heirs to Josiah Bellows. This piece extended to the present Rt. 12, so there is a ten-rod jog in the line there. The Hollis Chandler property was taken out of Josiah Bellows' land; the Mead property on the west side of the highway out of the Crafts' property.



In 1776 Chase had a house ten rods south of the present north line. He sold to John Crafts, recorded 1796, and Crafts' widow lived here with her second husband, Rev. Samuel Mead. The property was her widow's third, subject to a lease during her lifetime. The property came to Esther Crafts Morse and her husband, Dr Ebenezer Morse. They sold in 1830 to Ephraim Holland.

Ephraim, son of Dr. Abraham Holland, had married Nancy, daughter of Rev. Samuel Mead.

"He went to Keene and kept the Phoenix Hotel there when first married, and subsequently moved to Boston and kept a hotel on Howard Street known as 'Holland's Coffee House'. He at length returned to his native town and built the house where his widow now resides (1880), and lived there until his death" in 1859.

They had eight children of whom the eighth, George B., stayed at home with his mother, not marrying until his early forties. Of his three daughters the eldest, Nancy Holland Hubbard, now has the family home.

In the story of the settlement of Drewsville (*AH* 130), Aldrich states that Thomas C. Drew "had manufactured brick which he intended to use in building a house on land of Mrs. Lyman Watkins (1880). The bricks were made on land now owned by the Holland heirs just north of the bridge on Mad Brook. . . ."

This would have been on the west side of North Main Street on land now of Nancy Holland Hubbard.

39. EVALYN F. CURRIE (Mrs. Archie L.): Josiah, youngest son of Benjamin Bellows who died when the boy was ten, was willed 400 acres and £300 in money "to help him build a house and barn." He married at 21 years.

"After his marriage, Josiah lived for a time in a log house about half a mile south of the homestead. . . . He then built a small house a little south of his later residence. . . . About 1792 or 1793 he built the house now (1898) owned and occupied by John W. Hayward, which he enlarged as required by the needs of his increasing family and in which he lived for the rest of his life. . . . 'Uncle Si' was of medium height, but quite stout; was rather reserved and silent; decided in the expression of his opinions, and, although kind in his feelings and just to all, strict in enforcing his will. . . . Two days before his death, when driving a new horse on the Keene road a short distance south of the village, he met the stagecoach and, turning out too far, fell from his wagon and struck upon his head. He was taken up in a state of unconsciousness from which he never recovered." He died in 1846, aged 79.

In 1860 his heirs sold the property here, westerly to Rt. 12 and northerly to the cemetery and the Cemetery Road, to Henry G. and Harriet S. H. Wheelock, a grandson. While they owned the property, they sold to Nancy M. Holland a sliver 28 rods long along her north line

from a point on Main Street to seven rods wide at the west end. This made her line more nearly perpendicular to Main Street.

In 1867 the Wheelocks sold to John W. Hayward, another grandson of Josiah Bellows, including the land south of North Road which had come to Josiah from his father-in-law's estate; 1902 to Frederic and Sarah D. Nichols of Boston, Mass.; 1933 Nichols' Estate to Nelle H. Nichols of Newton, Mass.; 1957 to Archie L. and Evalyn F. Currie of Springfield, Vt. (For more concerning the Haywards see *Bellows Genealogy*.)

The first meeting house in Walpole was in the yard here, on the north-east side of the house.

40. JOHN W. JENSEN: Frederic Nichols built from what had been the milkhouse the smaller house next north for his caretaker, Everett L. Houghton, who also purchased Nichols' barn and the land on the east side of Main Street. In 1941 he gave this house to his son Ralph E.; 1956 Ralph sold to John W. and Ethel L. Jensen. Everett Houghton added the porches and John Jensen has made further changes.

## HUBBARD ROAD

41. DR. WILLIAM H. VON LACKUM: The house of William Von Lackum at the head of Main Street stands on the site of the house Thomas Sparhawk built soon after he came to Walpole. (Burned March 7, 1866.) According to *Aldrich*, Thomas Sparhawk came to Walpole in 1769.

"Where he first located is unknown, but he was not here long before he purchased a large tract of land, comprising, in part, what is now known as the Sparhawk homestead (now 1962 Kazimier), and built for himself a substantial dwelling, on the site of the residence" of William Von Lackum. "Here he lived till he died" in 1803. His wife, Rebecca, died 1807.

After the death of Thomas Sparhawk this property went to his daughter and her husband, Mary and Josiah Bellows. They sold almost immediately (April 1803) to Roger Vose, reserving as the dower right of Rebecca Sparhawk a certain part of the garden,

" $\frac{1}{3}$  of dwelling house, viz. southeast room and chamber over it;  $\frac{1}{2}$  the kitchen;  $\frac{1}{3}$  of cellar;  $\frac{1}{2}$  of washroom;  $\frac{1}{2}$  of dairy room;  $\frac{1}{2}$  of meal room;  $\frac{1}{3}$  of outbuilding with privilege in woodyard to put her wood; all barn on east side of floor;  $\frac{1}{2}$  privilege of barnyard. . . ."

In 1843 the Vose heirs sold the property to Benjamin B. Grant of Boston.

He was "a successful merchant of great enterprise. . . . Short, erect, plump, almost fat, the typical English squire of olden days . . . with forcible manner which com-



pelled every one to get out of his way when he called; with a wife, good 'Aunt Mary', his counterpart, copying all of his imperative ways, and yet the very soul of comfort and of good cheer. The memory of the good dinners which she cooked as no one else could, lingers still. . . . I can see Uncle Ben now as he took his summer daily walk to the village, dressed in spotless white, head thrown back, body erect, showing in every motion the energetic and masterful soul which controlled the short figure. . . . The beautiful trees planted by him that line our streets will long remain as the best monument to the enterprise and sagacity of him."

In 1886 the executors of Mary B. Grant sold to Miriam Nicholson of New York City; 1933 to Raymond B. Spaulding of Harrogate, England; 1942 to William and Lena P. Von Lackum.

42. JOHN J. O'BRIEN: This was originally a part of the Fessenden farm. Justin Farr sold an acre here in 1870 to Samuel J. Hubbard who probably built the house about 1871; 1872 to Samuel E. Hubbard; 1881 Samuel E., then of Westminster, sold to Charles Stowell; 1932 Helen E. Stowell to Nellie G. Stowell; 1951 to Donald Hubbard, reserving life use; 1956 to Roswell S. Pomeroy; 1959 to present owners.

#### CEMETERY ROAD

43. HUBBARD FARMS, INC.: In 1766 Benjamin Bellows sold to Rev. Thomas Fessenden for £80 about 41 acres near the meeting house at the north end of Main Street, on the north side of the road by the cemetery. In 1771 he sold a piece (five acres) from the south side to Thomas Sparhawk. Rev. Thomas Fessenden died 1813 and the farm was sold to his son-in-law, Royal Crafts, who had married Elizabeth Fessenden. However, he and his brother John had financial difficulties and he lost the farm.

In 1817 it came into the hands of Abel and Josiah Bellows; 1846 heirs of Josiah Bellows 3rd sold to Ezra Miner; 1866 his heirs sold to Israel Stowell; 1868 to Justin Farr of Westminster; 1879 to Sybil Augusta Farr of Boston; 1885 to John W. Hayward; 1908 to Everett L. Houghton; 1924 to Anna B. Fish of Ashby, Mass.; 1929 to Norman A. and Rosanna E. Wright of Grafton, Vt.; 1935 to Hubbard Farms, Inc.

#### PLEASANT STREET

44. THOMAS W. KINIRY: Dr. Ebenezer and Esther Crafts Morse kept for themselves the north corner of Elm and Pleasant Streets and had their home there. Mrs. Morse sold in 1868 to Eliza A. Griswold (Mrs. Henry W. S.) 17 acres; 1870 to Norman P. Clark; 1873 to George Huntington; 1877 his estate to Edwin K. Seabury; 1912 Seabury heirs to Henry K. Willard; 1913 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1923 to Harry J. and Eva M.

Stowell who left the property to their daughter Treva Stowell Kiniry. Apartments have been made here.

45. CARMEN G. KENYON: In 1891 Edwin K. Seabury sold this house lot to George Newell Holden who built a house that burned April 2, 1910, and was replaced by the present house; 1893 to Ella J. Bond; 1912 to Emily V. Wellman. Following litigation between Alma A. Burbank and Martha Barnard the property was sold in 1952 to Merton A. Kenyon and daughter Carmen G.

46. CHARLES S. (SID) WILSON: Between 1870 and 1873 Norman P. Clark sold this lot to Oliver T. Joslyn. He probably built a house here and had a garden. In 1875 he removed to the Plain on the Upper Road, and sold this property to Hubbard Newton; 1876 to David C. and Adeline Thompson of Walpole and Samuel Thompson of Appleton, Wisconsin, heirs of Lewis Thompson, brothers and sister; 1891 Warren, son of David C. Thompson, turned over his rights to his sister Frances A. Hubbard (Mrs. John). In 1903 she was residing in Hendersonville, N. C., and sold to Ira S. and Serena I. Hubbard; 1904 to George O. Taggard; 1910 to John E. Proctor; 1920 to Carrie L. Merriam of Foxboro, Mass.; 1928 to Herbert L. and Alice R. Hall; 1935 to Charles A. Merriam of Foxboro, Mass.; 1940 his estate to Lucile Bragg who made it into two apartments, and sold 1946 to Charles S. Wilson.

47. JOSEPHINE FLANDERS: In 1873 George Huntington sold land and buildings to John Harty; 1894 the Harty children to Widow Johanna Harty; 1940 Annie Harty (unmarried) to Josephine Flanders.

48. ROBERT E. MACK: In 1872 Norman P. Clark (Corintha F.) sold land and buildings to Tryphosa P. Hale of Westminster, the house being occupied by Mrs. Minor; 1885 Alexander Atcherson foreclosed the mortgage, and sold to Emeline V. Wellman. In 1952 following litigation between Burbank and Barnard, it was sold to George J. and Helen M. Audet; 1952 to Parker & Dymond, dealers; 1953 to Raymond L. and Gladys L. Sears; 1955 to Parker & Dymond; 1956 to Robert E. and Mary L. Mack.

49. HAROLD E. KILBURN (House at end of Pleasant Street): In 1874 George Huntington sold to Cornelius and Margaret Harty one-third of an acre with land and buildings occupied by Thomas Griffin; 1879 Margaret Harty to Thomas Griffin; 1941 heirs Ellen H. and Cornelius Griffin sold to Harold E. and Alice T. Kilburn.

50. FELIX ALDRICH JR. (Near west end of Pleasant Street and west of old



street to Depot Hill): In 1880 Edwin K. Seabury sold one-half an acre here to Eliza T. Driscoll; 1896 to Bartholomew Driscoll, Eliza reserving use for natural life; 1920 his heir, Elizabeth V. Driscoll, to Thomas P. Griffin; 1929 other heirs to Ellen Griffin (Thomas Griffin Jr. resided here when he died); 1942 Griffin estate to Ada and Martin Densmore; 1954 to Felix E. Jr. and Kathleen Aldrich.

51. JOHN A. HILLIER JR. (Next east of old street to Depot Hill): In 1833 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold to Sylvanus Titus one-half an acre; 1837 to Phebe Wire, reserving two rods wide across north end for a road; 1854 to Emeline Livingston (Henry D.), tenant Jacob W. Hale; 1857 to Thomas S. Felch (Lucy R.), inherited by Irving Felch; 1910 to Augustus T. Felch; 1919 his estate to Urania C. Graves; 1920 to Cornelius Harty; 1924 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1928 to Henry P. Marsh; 1934 to Irene M. Spinney; 1949 Irene M. Spinney Farnsworth to daughter Julia S. Thompson of Westminster; 1954 to William L. and Jane E. Pennington; 1957 to John A. Jr. and June Hillier.

52. JOHN HARTY: In 1833 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold one-half an acre here to Ira Waldo; 1839 to Otis Bardwell; 1847 to Albert Richardson (Mary C.); 1854 to Silas M. Bates (Sally); 1954 to Abel Bellows; 1869 his son Abel Herbert Bellows to Maria Hall (Martin G.); 1892 to John E. Proctor; 1919 his estate to Cornelius Harty; John Harty inherited.

53. ALFRED M. MARTIN: In 1833 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold one-half an acre here to William Sherman; 1835 to Keziah R. Holland; 1849 to Foskit Farr; 1872 his heirs to Mary E. Miller, daughter and a widow; 1872 to George H. Champlin of Boston; 1873 to Ebenezer Proctor; 1877 to John E. Proctor; 1919 his estate to Ruth G. Stowell; 1930 her estate to Granville E. and Lucette E. Leonard; 1942 widow Lucette to Fred A. Ramsay; 1960 his daughter, Gertrude Ramsay Wallace to Alfred M. and Arvilla W. Martin.

#### ELM STREET, WEST SIDE

54. CHARLOTTE A. FLINT AND JOHN W. FLINT: In 1817 the Morses sold "156 rods" to John Maynard who mortgaged and lost it; 1819 it was sold to John Carlisle, shoemaker; 1821 to Ebenezer Morse. The records do not show how Isaac Redington obtained this property, but in 1836 he sold to John Bellows; 1840 Henry W. Bellows to William Jennison; 1842 to Aaron P. Howland who is supposed to have built the house. Mrs. Howland sold in 1884 to George P. Porter who had a store where Central

Garage is now; 1923 Porter estate to Cyrus M. Clough; 1938 Bertha R. Clough, who inherited, to Edward C. Boyce (Mary L.) of Fitzwilliam, who came to Walpole to run the Walpole Inn. He sold in 1941 to Lucile Bragg. When Mrs. Bragg took over the property it presented a sad sight with its run-down buildings, trees overturned by the hurricane, garden lands grown up to weeds. She wrote:

"It was the superior and unusual construction of the house with its attractive Gothic windows and detail that tempted me to see just what I could make of it. The fact that the house was built by Aaron P. Howland for his own family undoubtedly accounted for its superior construction. The cellar walls are unusually thick and the cellar itself is divided into three separate rooms. The outside walls of the house are of brick covered over with wood, while the chimney at the back of the house has built into it on the second floor a complete outfit for smoking meat."

In 1942 Mrs. Bragg sold to Eleanor H. and Norman H. Schofield. After the death of Mrs. Schofield, Norman married Ruth Cobb and they built a new house on Prospect Street, selling here to Charlotte A. Flint and her son John W. Flint in 1960.

(See also *AH* 288 for A. P. Howland)

55. RICHARD E. COLLINS: In 1952 Lucile Bragg sold the west end of the lot with two dwellings which she had erected to Richard Collins. He kept the easterly of these houses.

56. HAROLD S. KELLEY: In 1952 Richard Collins sold the westerly end of his lot with dwelling to Helen Tatem Demers (Frances Edgett, the school nurse, had been living here); 1960 Helen Demers, then of Rochester, New York, sold to Harold S. and Mary S. Kelley.

57. ESTATE OF BERTHA LEONARD: In 1817 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold an acre of land here to Isaac Redington. He built the house and lived here. (*AH* 345-6) Redington sold in 1834 to Edwin Jennison; 1835 to his father William Jennison who lived here, and who probably had come down from his farm (Howland place now on Ramsay Hill); his daughter Phebe Augusta of Worcester sold 1864 to Edwin Hosmer (Maria) who had been on the Fletcher Farm. Maria Elizabeth Guthrie of Buffalo and George E. Seabury of Clinton, Mass., inherited from Maria Hosmer and sold their shares in the estate to their father Edwin K. Seabury in 1902 and 1904; 1904 to Dr. O. L. Corliss; 1909, he having removed to Mt. Vernon, N. H., sold to St. John's Church; 1911 to Hudson E. Bridge; 1916 to Willie G. Leonard whose son Wallace (Bertha) inherited.



58. ST. JOHN'S CHURCH AND PARSONAGE: The line between the Morse and Bellows property was at the north line of this property. In 1806 the heirs of Benjamin Bellows sold one-half an acre here to Justin Hinds, bookbinder; 1806 to Alexander Thomas. The price would indicate that Hinds built a house here while he owned the property. In 1808 Thomas bought additional land on his south, all on the corner except the brick schoolhouse lot. Thomas lived here until he died, his heirs selling in 1832 to William Ruggles, after which the property came to be known as the Ruggles house. Ruggles had previously owned property on Prospect and had married Ransom Lawrence's widow, Betsey. R. L. Ball also lived here.

In 1864 Ruggles sold to James Benson (Lucy); 1866 to Leonard B. Holland. The Hollands acquired the whole corner, sold it in 1902 to Helen D. Bridge who gave it to the Protestant Episcopal Church, erecting St. John's Church.

Thomas Redington lived in the Ruggles house at some time, but never seems to have owned it. The house was taken down in 1892, when it was known as the Ball house.

BRICK SCHOOLHOUSE: In 1809 Samuel and Phebe Grant sold a lot on the corner, two rods on Elm Street and four rods on Westminster Street, to School District #1 for the new brick schoolhouse which had already been built. In 1854 District #1 sold the plot to Philip Peck (Martha E.) and they to Levi H. Foster (Fanny M.); 1866 to Leonard B. Holland, now a part of the St. John's Church Lot.

Josiah G. Bellows wrote:

"When the high school was established and the present primary and intermediate school was built, there was no longer any need for the brick schoolhouse. The floor was leveled, the intermediate schoolroom was converted into a shoemaker's shop and was occupied for many years by R. L. Ball who there followed his calling of making excellent boots and shoes for customers, as well as repairing and selling ready made goods. The rest of the building was used as a dwelling house. I have a photograph of the building in which Mr. Ball stands in his shirt sleeves and leather apron at the open door, with his sleeves rolled up just as he rose from his bench.

"There was a wooden structure at the west end of the schoolhouse used for a woodshed and other purposes which had a curious history. This wooden appendage was bought by Levi H. Foster and employed to form part of the walls of a dwelling house which he put up close to the schoolhouse on Westminster Street. I remember well the contrast between the dark weather-beaten clapboards and the new lumber on the walls of the house.

"When Mr. Foster began the work on the house he was a strong, healthy man, but unfortunately as he was at work on the staging which was built across the front of the house at the second story, he stepped on the end of a loose board and fell to the side-

walk. He was so badly injured that his life was in doubt for a time, and he was ever after a cripple.

“After a time the brick schoolhouse was taken down and the bricks used to pave Mr. Mitchell’s driveway. Probably no one regrets its removal, since it had outlived its usefulness and was too large to be preserved as a relic. . . .”

## WESTMINISTER STREET, WEST TO EAST

59. BRIDGE COAL AND GRAIN STORE: In 1807 the proprietors of the Village Bridge bought to southwest corner of Josiah Bellows’ land from his father, and here on the north side of the east entrance to the bridge built the toll house. The town acquired title when it took over the bridge; 1913 to Frank A. Spaulding who had a coal-grain store here; 1931 his heirs to Carl Smith; 1947 his widow to George Leighton Bridge who continued the business here until the laying of the new Route #12, bypassing Walpole Village. The building is no more; the Bridge business is now located at the corner of Main and High Streets.

In May 1877 the old toll house, kept by P. Murray as Connecticut River Hotel, was closed by town authorities. It had been opened for the accommodation of tramps, but the proprietor abused his privilege by entertaining also loafers and furnishing beverage not allowed by law.

In 1846 the Moses and Bellows heirs sold the land next east to the Cheshire Railroad Co. The Walpole Depot was here.

On Depot Hill there were four properties, the land records of which were closely related. The north three, all gone now, came from land which Eliza Holton (widow of Loomis) bought from the Moses; sold 1859 to Daniel Kiniry; 1860 north part of lot to Bartholomew Kiniry; 1869 the south four rods to Cornelius Harty; 1877 heirs to Margaret Harty. On May 15, 1904, the following item appeared in the *Bellows Falls Times*:

“During church as the Catholics were homeward bound, the Orthodox people heard, the Unitarians did not, the fire alarm. The fire was in the shed of Mrs. Harty’s house on Depot Hill, occupied by her son David. The furniture was removed, the firemen were able to protect the houses of B. Driscoll and B. Kiniry. The house was entirely consumed by noon, but there was plenty of help to take care of sparks carried by the south wind. Mrs. Harty, over 80, and her son were taken home by her son-in-law, Thomas Griffin.”

Apparently no one claimed the place thereafter, and the town finally took possession in 1960. This property is presently in the course of the new Route #12.

Next south in 1863 Daniel Kiniry sold to Bartholomew Driscoll and it became his home place. Frank P. Driscoll inherited; sold 1956 to Mary L.



Wing; 1957 to Donald H. and Betty L. Sawyer. This also taken as in the path of new Route #12.

Next south Daniel Kiniry sold 1865 to Daniel Sheehan; 1866 to Christian Lucke; 1867 to John S. Farnsworth; 1892 heirs to Bartholomew Driscoll; Frank P. and Mary C. Driscoll inherited; 1955 to Ronald V. T. and Harriet F. Tilyard. This was in the path of the new highway.

Next south was the Burt place. In 1849 the Morses sold an acre of land here to Sumner A. and John H. Burt, Holland Burt living here at the time. Sumner's widow Anna E. B. sold her share in 1887 to John; his heirs Mary Jeanette Burt and Mabel Burt Lawson sold 1904 to Bartholomew Driscoll. As may be seen Bartholomew Driscoll owned the three last places here, and he changed the lot lines. A study of the deeds makes it appear that the Tilyard house was the old Farnsworth house. Frank Driscoll confirms this.

Also on Depot Hill were three other places, closely related in the records, that have been taken to make way for the new Route #12. These were the Kiniry places, some of the land of which came from the Josiah Bellows estate which James L. Mitchell bought in 1869.

a. Bartholomew Kiniry's homestead his son Thomas had; then his widow Ellen L.; 1937 to Raymond A. Seward; 1939 to Glen T. and Pearl L. Boynton.

Next north the sons Thomas A. and Frank W. Kiniry built houses in 1897.

b. The middle house Ellen L. and Margaret L. Kiniry sold 1953 to William A. and Floris E. Russell; 1953 to Rolland S. and Greta A. Jameson.

c. The north house Ellen L. Kiniry sold 1945 to William T. Kiniry; 1949 to Winfred H. and Marjorie A. Dunham.

The two latter houses have been moved (1962) via the new road to Maplewood Park, 'b' now Rodney MacArthur's #499 and 'c' Gilbert Ross' #493.

After the railroad was built, a road was laid 1859 from the southwest corner of the cemetery on the Bellows Falls Road to the new depot. This road was not entirely satisfactory due to clay primarily and was discontinued in 1950.

The dump for the town was for some years on this road, moved, when the new school was built, to a site on the road to Drewsville.

In the early 1900's an old lady by the name of Buckley lived in a freight

car on this, the dump road. She is remembered as one the children were afraid of because she made them think of a witch. The Buckleys had no recorded deed, but when the Mitchell estate was sold in 1883, it was "subject to rights of Patrick Buckley deceased or his heirs or widow."

60. CLYDE E. SESSIONS: In 1853 Ebenezer and Esther Morse sold to Mary Ann Wellington a piece two rods by two rods and in 1859 another piece the same size to the east. She was a washerwoman who lived alone, who was more or less tormented by the boys, and who finally went insane. In 1879 E. K. Seabury bought this property and sold to Alfred Knight. He added a second story in 1881; the house was razed in 1897. Knight was a funny old English chap who had a shoemaker's shop over Ransom Ball's store, very nice people. In 1929 Lawrence Amor sold to Emma H. Hathaway; 1940 to Raoul J. and Emma M. McKenven. In 1952 McKenven sold the south part of the lot to Clyde E. and Leola A. Sessions.

61. ROBERT J. WALLIS: In 1940 McKenven had bought from Frank P. and Mary Driscoll another piece on the north, added it to part of the Hathaway lot and sold in 1946 to Frank A. and Katherine M. Cass; 1946 to Warren K. and Deborah G. Brubach; 1947 to George C. and Marion R. Douglas; 1952 to Fred B. and Janet C. Spyker; 1954 to Harold A. and Janet Sample; 1957 to Robert J. and Lorraine M. Wallis.

62. STEWART W. HOLMES: The land at the top of Depot Hill, north side, on the turn, was sold by Ebenezer and Esther Morse in 1826 to Josiah Bellows 3rd and Charles T. Redington; Charles went to Charleston, S. C., to recover his health, there died of consumption. His heirs (brothers George, William, and Henry and sisters Frances and Mary Ely, all of Littleton, N. H.) and Bellows sold 1835 to Horatio Wood; 1839, Wood having removed to Newburyport, Mass., to George Huntington; 1854 to Solomon Thayer of Portland, Maine; 1857 (with Lydia E. Thayer) to Mary D. Faxon; 1892 Mary F. Howe, daughter of Mary Faxon, and living in Longwood, Ill., sold her half of her mother's estate to Elizabeth F. Tobey; 1949 Harrison Gardner Bridge, grandson of Elizabeth Tobey, sold to George E. and Helen S. Page of Rockingham, Vt.; 1958 Helen S. Page, widow, to Stewart W. and Katheryn M. Holmes.

According to the *Bellows Genealogy* John Bellows built the house in 1833.

63. EMMA M. MCKENVEN: Along the north side of Westminster Street there was a narrow strip which belonged to Gen. Benjamin Bellows, but the main part of this land was Crafts property. Bellows' heirs, Samuel and



Phebe Grant, sold this strip in 1810 to Francis Gardner who owned on the south side of the road; 1813 to David Stone; 1817 to Stephen R. Bradley. In 1830 Bradley bought from Ebenezer and Esther Morse the land next north of this strip and in 1833 Bradley's heirs sold to John Bellows of Boston. He lived here and must have built the house. His widow, Ann H., sold in 1854 to Orlando Leland; 1856 he and his wife Ursula C. sold to Hiram Wotkyns of Troy, N. Y.; 1866 he with his wife Sarah U. sold to Leonard B. Holland of Kirkwood, Missouri. His wife was Elnora. Various trusts were set up and finally one group of her heirs-at-law (Nathaniel W. Holland, Emma Holland, Isabel H. Gile and husband Alton A., Ada H. Mason and husband Leston E., James L. Holland) sold to another group (Mary M., Henry B., Abbie and Lenora Holland) in 1898. In 1900 Mary M. Holland became the owner, the other three selling to her. In 1936 the property was taken over by Brattleboro Trust Company; 1937 sold to Raoul J. and Emma M. McKenven.

Mary Holland kept it as the Holland House, the favorite stopping place of those who were just opening or closing their summer homes, as well as others. It has now been made into apartments.

64. **WOODWARD FLORIST:** In 1936 Fanny P. Mason sold to Herman O. and Alice B. Woodward a piece of land which was the northwest point of the old Bradley farm, west of Depot Hill and south of the railroad depot, they buying more land in 1942. Mr. Woodward built here his florist plant—greenhouses, workshop, sheds, replacing the plant in Westminster damaged by the 1936 flood. The new Rt. 12 bypass has taken the west side of this property, necessitating moving the woodworking shop to their place on Main Street.

65. **PHILIP L. WOODWARD:** To the east of the other buildings of Woodward Florist, Mr. Woodward built a house along the southwest side of Westminster Street; 1940 to Philip Woodward who lives here.

66. **WILLIAM B. WILLARD:** David Stone brought the farm together piece by piece beginning with what he bought from Francis Gardner in 1813, including the house on the south side of the street at the top of Depot Hill. Gardner had bought one acre from Samuel and Phebe Grant in 1808 for \$200 and built the house. He was a lawyer in Walpole, who later removed to Keene and became a member of Congress. His son Francis was headmaster of Boston Latin School for many years. Margaret Gardner (Mrs. Francis Sr.) was quite the belle of the town according to Emily Barnes. After selling this place the Gardners owned the Spitzli place until 1817.

Except for the piece west of Depot Hill which was out of the Morse property, this whole farm came from what had been Gen. Benjamin Bellows land.

In 1817 Stone sold to Stephen Rowe Bradley. (*AH* 214-6, *Josiah Bellows Memoirs* Chap. 3 Page 7, *Bellows Genealogy* Page 187.)

In 1833 the other heirs of Bradley sold to Henry S. Tudor, 1849 to Abiel Chandler of Boston, retired merchant; willed to New Hampshire Asylum for the Insane in 1855; to George R. Makepeace of Utica, N. Y., merchant. He was also a hotel keeper running the Wentworth House.

In 1861 he sold to Benjamin P. Spaulding (Sarah) of Boston; 1876 to Thomas R. Marston; 1878 to James B. and Louisa M. Dinsmore of Charlestown "reserving all potatoes, except 25 bushel, and hay stored in tobacco barn." They were hotel people and ran the property as a boarding house; 1887 to Carrie E. and Edward R. Bryan of New Haven, Conn.; bank took over and sold 1888 to Matthew H. Gorham; 1892 to George F. Tower of St. Louis for a summer home; 1901 Tower estate to Fanny P. Mason; 1913 to Henry K. Willard of Washington, D. C., now owned by William B. Willard.

## WASHINGTON SQUARE—WEST SIDE

67. TOWN HALL: In 1826 Abel Bellows deeded to the town the plot on which the town hall stands. On October 27, 1825, the town had voted to move the Meeting House down from Prospect Hill; the Bellows plot provided land for the building. Since the first deed provided that the "Town shall hold this land for as long as it is used for the usual purposes of a meeting house and sheds", Bellows gave a quit claim deed to the town for \$200 after the Town Congregational Society erected its own church on Main Street and the town hall was no longer used for meeting house purposes.

This had been a part of Gen. Benjamin Bellows' tract; Samuel and Phebe Grant sold 1806 to Amasa Allen; his heirs in 1822 to Oliver Allen; 1825 to Abel Bellows. The town hall burned in 1917 and was rebuilt. (See Town Business.)

68. ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH: In 1844 the selectmen sold to Henry Foster the south part of the meeting house lot; 1845 to Henry S. Tudor; 1848 to Uriah Newton and Anson Lawrence who in 1848 made it over to a group representing the Methodist Church; 1868 to James L. Mitchell for the Episcopal Church. After five or six years the Episcopalians sold to the Catholics.



As originally built in 1845, the church had at the front a Greek portico with roof supported by four fluted Doric pillars, giving the building a distinctly classical appearance. Some 50 or 60 years ago the church was enlarged by adding the chancel portion at the west end, enclosing the portico at the east end and adding a tower and a small porch. For posts for the new porch two of the old pillars were shortened. The other two pillars were placed inside the building at either side of the chancel. The interior has recently been refinished, acoustic tile added to the ceiling.

69. CATHERINE M. PARKINSON: In 1806 Samuel and Phebe Grant sold the next eight rods south on west side of Washington Square to Samuel Grant and Nathaniel Gould; 1808 to Oren Hall. There was a house near the north line occupied by Nathaniel Gould. In 1810 Oren Hall lived here and had a shop to the south of the house. In 1810 he sold the north half of the lot to Henry Rice; 1811 to Nehemiah Chandler, clothier; 1813 to Macy Adams who was occupying the house; 1819 to William Gage, son of Asa Gage; estate of Sarah Gage to George W. Graves (Stella); 1858 to Isaac F. Bellows (Ellenora); 1863 to Morgan J. Sherman; 1865 to J. Boylston Clark (Sarah B.); 1865 to Louisa R. Johonnot; 1867 to Otis Bardwell; 1881 his heirs to John B. Russell and Samuel W. Bradford; 1892 (Bradford had died) John B. Russell and Sarah G. Bradford to Jessie F. Joslyn; 1896 to William Sibley; 1899 Frank B. Sibley sold to Timothy and Mary A. O'Brien; 1941 his estate to R. J. and Emma M. McKenven; 1956 to present owner. Rev. N. G. Allen lived here about 1880.

70. CHARLES D. MILLER: In 1810 Oren Hall sold the south half of the above lot to Henry Rice, then swapped north and south; Hall sold south half 1811 to Isaac Cobb; 1815 to David Bliss of Surry; 1816 to George Watkins; 1865 his other heirs sold to his daughter Harriet R. Lucke. She left this property to Walpole Town Congregational Society; 1905 to Frank E. Hawkes; 1906 to George A. Pierce; 1911 to G. Irving Pierce; 1917 to Fanny P. Mason; 1933 to Raoul J. and Emma M. McKenven; 1936 to Isabel C. Butler; 1956 her estate to Charles D. and Helen C. Miller.

71. DONALD MACNAUGHTAN: This was from the land Phebe Bellows Grant had from her father, and was bounded on the south by her brother Caleb's property. In 1809 the Grants sold to Joseph Bellows Jr.; 1811 to David Stone who is supposed to have built the house. He was in business





*Old Lucke House*

Howard S. Anderson  
1962

#70

with Josiah Bellows 3rd in the old brick store, with a branch (fur business) in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was away much of the time, and in 1828 the family moved to Dayton, Ohio, selling this place in 1830 to Dr. Jesseniah Kittredge. He practiced medicine in Walpole for 40 years, having studied medicine with his father. In 1868 sold to Warren H. Smith of Rutland. During his ownership Mrs. Wright ran it as a summer boarding house. In 1882 Smith sold it to Abel P. Richardson and Curtis R. Crowell who continued the business for 16 years. In April 1898 Mrs. Julia Wier from Drewsville took over. In 1903 George E. Sherman bought, selling to Copley Amory who was building the Walpole Inn; 1907 to Blanche Bruce Wotkyns of Troy, N. Y.; 1930 to Donald McNaughtan of Lowell, Mass., who christened it Old Colony Inn. During earlier ownership it had been The Elmwood.

72. HERBERT R. TUCKER: In 1808 Stephen Rice bought a lot here six rods wide and probably built the house; 1811 to Thomas Seaver; 1817 to William G. Field; 1829 to Thomas Bellows; 1831 to Macy Adams; 1862 Clarinda Adams to Walton Mead; 1862 to Harriet Thurston; 1863 to Oliver Martin whose heir Clara Ivanetta Sargent sold 1904 to Julia Ann



Wier; 1924 her son Willard H. Lovell of South Hadley, Mass., to George A. and Lizzie B. Hatch; 1944 their children, Lelia King of Charlestown, and Fred D. Hatch of Langdon, sold to Lucile Bragg; 1952 to Myra F. Tucker.

Mrs. Bragg replaced the old chimneys, built two fireplaces, and removed the front porch.

73. LESTER CHICKERING—FAIRVIEW COTTAGE: Mrs. Bragg reserved the south part of the lot and built a new house, using material from the barn at the place next south. She lived here until her death.

74. ROBERT SAWYER, known as Galloway house: In 1801 Samuel Grant bought the lot from Gen. Benjamin Bellows, Thomas Swan building a house on the lot at the time; 1803 to Eliphalet Fox, Thomas Swan residing here; 1806 to Amasa Allen; 1806 to Asa Sibley, Stephen Steward occupying; 1810 to Davis Carpenter and Alexander Watkins (innholders 1813); 1813 to Thomas Bellows; 1817 to Thomas Seaver. In 1836, Thomas Seaver resided here, bought more land on the south; 1846 David Buffum took the property by an attachment on Thomas Seaver and Thomas H. Seaver, apothecaries, and sold to James and Sarah K. Stowell; 1852 to Oliver Martin; 1866 to John B. Russell (18 acres); 1875 to Curtis Crowell (two acres); 1894 to Miriam Nicholson. She left to her children John E. Nicholson and Isabella N. Doremus; estate sold 1946 to Lucile Bragg. It was already a two family house. Robert Sawyer and family had lived here more than 25 years. She made the extra two room portion into a third apartment and Miss Mary Buffum lived there. The barn she tore down. Robert Sawyer now owns the property.

75. ADELINE CHICKERING: In 1809 Caleb Bellows sold to Derick Sibley. He removed to Montpelier, Vt., and sold in 1810 to Widow Betsey Lathwood the northeast part of lot with buildings; 1825 to Sally Lathwood who resided here until 1842. Her maiden daughter, who weighed some 250 lbs., lived with her. The young people called on them frequently to hear the mother address her daughter as "my dear little lamb". This was the old #1 school built 1771 on the east side of North Main Street, moved here when the brick school was built.

In 1842 Oliver Martin bought the Lathwood house and lot; 1844 to Daniel Harvey Jr.; 1848 to Albert Wight; 1851 to Fanny Parker (referred to as the Widow Parker); 1865 to Oliver Martin; 1869 to Mary Ann Watkins; 1901 to Carl Smith; 1904 to Ralph W. Slade; 1909 to Addie J. Knowlton; 1952 to Adeline Chickering.

76. NORMA P. CREHORE AND JOHN D. CREHORE III: The south part of the lot above, which Derick Sibley had from Caleb Bellows, he sold 1811 to Benjamin Reed; 1814 to Otis Daggett; 1817 to Daniel Turner; 1818 to Abel Bellows. During the following period there is confusion in ownership, it being attributed to Nancy Perkins but no deed recorded in her name. Various tenants had the place: Polly Livingston 1851, Samuel Porter 1856, Nancy M. Perkins. Oliver Martin bought in 1859 and sold 1868 to Abel P. Richardson; 1888 to Samuel H. Elwell; in 1908 Henry M. Elwell inherited; 1914 to May Elwell White; 1917 to Fred A. and Grace U. Metcalf who removed to Brockport, N. Y. and sold 1930 to Annie M. Hall of Belmont, Mass.; 1938 to Horace A. and Maude V. M. Palmer. Winthrop Houghton married their daughter, bought from the other heirs, and sold to Mrs. John Crehore.

GUNHOUSE: Next to the street, on the south side of the above lot, was the gunhouse. Asa Sibley sold the land to the state in 1806, the gunhouse being here then. In 1851 Abel Bellows bought from the state the land and the gunhouse, absorbing it into his other property here.

77. FRED R. PERHAM: In 1823 Caleb Bellows sold 53 acres here to Jonathan Mason; 1824 to Nathaniel Holland; 1832 to Ephraim Holland; 1834 ten acres next to the gunhouse to Macy Adams; 1835 to Theron Adams; 1853 to Oliver Martin; 1856 to John W. Lovejoy, a house lot, which he left to the New Hampshire Missionary Society; 1882 to Josephine A. Joslin; 1897 to Oliver J. Butterfield; 1906 to Julia E. Morse; 1945 to Ralph N. Johnson; 1945 to Fred R. and Mary Q. Perham.

78. DR. WALTER W. BUTTRICK JR.: Out of the lot above, next south of John W. Lovejoy's, Oliver Martin sold a lot to Hiram Wotkyns, physician; in 1866 Wotkyns added four acres more from John B. Russell on the south. In 1892 Helen Wotkyns, sole heir, sold to Ida L. Butterfield; 1918 to Martha J. and Edward H. Kidder; 1935 estate to Dwight W. and Florence B. Harris; 1941 to Malcolm D. and Charlotte K. Williams; 1955 to Dr. Walter and Barbara Buttrick.

79. WALTER FELCH: When Oliver Martin owned the O'Brien farm and the Holland Meadow to the north, he sold this lot (ten acres) to John B. Russell. Charles Russell built the house and lived here; in 1889 to Irving W. Felch, still in the family. The house stands on a ridge running parallel with the road and commands a wide view of the Connecticut Valley.



## HIGH STREET—NORTH SIDE

80. FLOYD J. SUTTON: Bought 1947 from Donald Cram who had owned the Guest Store, north corner Main and High Streets. They had resided here before buying. It had formerly been a blacksmith shop.

81. MAURICE E. ROBBINS: Oliver Martin bought 1877 from Edward Mahogany (See Main Street #90) and built the house for his daughter Emily (Mrs. Charles Fisher). In 1890 she bought an extra four feet on the north side of her lot (from Mrs. Farnsworth) and added a bay window to her house. (It is said that Oliver Martin built more new houses and remodelled more old houses than anyone else in town.) In 1911 Mrs. Fisher's heirs sold to Abbie E. Chappell; 1919 to Mrs. Addie Cole; 1954 her daughter, Mrs. Edith Cole Tiffany, sold to present owners.

82. NEIL ROBERT SWIFT: In 1883 James Brady of Brooklyn bought the Hitchcock shop property on Main Street and the Hooper property next east. There was a 25-foot carriageway along the north side of the lot, which came to be known as Brady Lane. (See Main Street #90 and #91.) In 1889 he sold to Eleanor Brady Farnsworth. The piece between her house and High Street George Huntington sold 1869 to William Farnham "reserving house now on said premises to be taken off within 45 days." In 1886 Mrs. Farnsworth had bought this piece from Martha Farnham. In the fall of 1890 she remodelled her house to face High Street instead of Main Street and/or Brady Lane. She lived to be 98. In 1938 the other heirs sold to Nellie J. Wilson; 1953 Charles E. Farnsworth, who had inherited the property, sold to present owners.

83. HENRY A. JENSEN: This large two story, two family house was originally Samuel Grant's saddler shop which stood on the site of the present library. Benjamin Willis, who was a very nervous man, considered this building a fire hazard to his own residence on Main Street (Jennison 1962), and had it moved to this location on High Street, George Sabin doing the actual moving for him.

Mrs. Willis was a May, sister of Mrs. Bronson Alcott. The Alcotts lived in the west side of this house for a time. Judge Bellows wrote thus of the family in Walpole:

"The Alcott family came here about 1850 and as the fame of Louisa Alcott, the novelist, has become worldwide, they deserve mention. The reason of their seeking Walpole was, I fear, rather mundane. Bronson Alcott, whom the late Ralph Waldo Emerson considered the great philosopher of the century, and who, although he might have been a sage, was the most visionary and most unpractical of men, found himself, to use a common expression, financially 'flat on his back'. Through the intercession of Mrs.

Willis, Mr. Willis offered to his brother-in-law here shelter, firewood, and enough crumbs from the overflowing larders of the Wells' house to sustain his philosophic life, and the lives of that little brood, whom his philosophy had engendered. He thought, and Emerson agreed with him, that the world did not comprehend his greatness, but to the common folks, he seemed too lazy to saw his own firewood, and so much given to speculating on the woes of others that he entirely forgot those whom he had begotten.

"As I remember him, he was a tall, spare man, with the Greek head, a fine head it was, with a white full beard. His wife, Mrs. Alcott, was the very antipode of her speculative husband, as practical as he was unpractical. Nature planned her for a notable housewife, and she devoted her time and thought to providing for the daily needs of her little flock, and caring for the philosophic selfishness of the man whom, notwithstanding all his faults, she tenderly loved, and cheerfully followed in all his esthetic flights or idiosyncrasies.

"His character is well shown by little incidents like these. Like all philosophers, he thought most highly of his own gifts, and the vast importance of his own thoughts, accordingly, he would never set them down, except on full sized sheets of unlined legal cap, cream laid, and highly finished and expensive. In the center of each sheet he would write eight or ten lines of the philosophy, leaving wide margins. All this, to the intense disgust of his good brother-in-law's thrifty mind. When old Mr. Willis sent him his winter firewood, for we all burned wood then, and had it cut up and placed in the shed, in a very short time the Alcotts would come over to the Wells' house to borrow a few sticks of wood to get their scanty supper with. 'Why, Mr. Alcott, what have you done with all the wood I sent you?' Mr. Willis would exclaim. 'My poor neighbor, Owen Burns, was out of wood, and I gave it to him.'

"He had settled the diet question, and was a very ardent vegetarian, with all the Hindoo's reverence for life, but without knowing anything of the modern bacteriological cult, so ideas became so sublimated that personally he would not eat anything that did not grow between Heaven and Earth, though he allowed his family to eat grosser roots that were supplied from subterranean sources.

"His four daughters were rather attractive girls, somewhat large in bone and flabbily plump. I know my brother, Dr. Alfred Hosmer, rather a bright man, always used to speak of them as the 'Watery Vegetables'. The oldest daughter, Annie, who outlived all the rest, and was my first school teacher, by the way, more nearly resembled the practical mother. Louisa, the second child, is now known wherever the English language is spoken as the authoress of that delightful book *LITTLE WOMEN*. This, by the way, is a most accurate sketch of their early life here, and the family. Lizzie, the third daughter, died here, of consumption, I think, after a long illness. I can remember little about her, but she had the reputation of being a very sweet girl. The youngest daughter, May, we know as Abby here, had some artistic taste, illustrated her sister's books and afterward dabbled with sculpture. I went to school with her for several years, and she was about my age, quite a nice girl as I remember her, but then showing no signs of future greatness.

"All of the girls had quite a taste for private theatricals, and in conjunction with some of our townspeople founded a dramatic company distinguished in those early days, and the first to give plays in the modern style. They first presented *ROUGH DIAMOND*, and *BOX & COX*. Mrs. Tobey, then the village beauty and belle, and Dr. Blake were the particularly bright stars, although John Hayward and his brother



Waldo, and Judge Howland then but a lad in college (he entered at 15) were not far behind them. The first plays were given in Mrs. Banning's house (then owned by the Atkinsons, now Whitmore) in the long hall. Another representation followed with new plays at Aunt Louisa Hayward's, who then lived in the Barnes house at the summit of Prospect Street, and the company, the next summer, took more permanent quarters in the attic of the Elmwood on Washington Square, where they produced with great éclat Sheridan's comedy of *THE RIVALS*, in which Louisa Alcott played Mrs. Malaprop, and Howard M. Ticknor, a son of the Ticknor of Ticknor & Fields, played Falkland. By the way, Ticknor became known as the best amateur actor in the country, and created a sensation in New York where he played at the Sanitary Fair in 1864, in the same play in which he had won a success here, *STILL WATERS RUN DEEP*.

"Miss Louisa Alcott was a great novelist in her way, having almost unequalled power in describing the character and characteristics of the people whom she met in her ordinary life."

In 1859 Benjamin Willis sold the property to William Farnham who resided here with his wife Martha. The property was owned next by their daughter Mary F. (Mrs. Oscar W.) Rogers. In 1909 her estate to George O. and John H. Taggard; 1911 to Mary and Hannah Callahan and Willis C. Foster; 1913 to Retta M. (Mrs. Ira) Ramsay; 1951 estate to Humphrey B. and Evelyn T. Neill; 1953 to Henry A. and Ida May Jensen.

84. **HOLLIS G. RHOADES:** In 1870 Mrs. Farnham and the Rogerses sold to George H. Holden the two acres east of their house "reserving ice house and shed on west side of said tract with right to remove". He built the house here; 1922 his sons Newell G. and Charles H. Holden sold to Charles S. Bain; 1952 his estate to John W. Good (Mary E.); 1958 the house and lot to the present owners.

John Good cut up the rest of the two acres into houselots and in 1952 deeded to the town "Land for public highway running from north side of High Street northerly, easterly, and southerly returning to north side of High Street". Beginning at the southeast corner of the tract, and continuing northerly, then westerly the houses are as follows:

85. **DWIGHT K. JEFFREY:** Bought 1952 "with new house thereon".

86. **PAUL A. LAMOTHE:** In 1952 Good sold to Rosamond E. Wentworth of Alstead the next lot north with house; 1959 to present owners.

87. **JOHN W. GOOD.**

88. **RANDALL P. DANIELS:** In 1957 Good sold to George H. and Vera O. Piper the place on the north side of the Circle; 1961 to present owners.

89. **STEARNS P. WRIGHT:** Bought in 1953 the next place west.

## MAIN STREET, EAST SIDE, NORTH FROM HIGH STREET

90. BRIDGE FUEL & GRAIN CO., INC.: In 1793 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to Amasa Allen for £180 the lot where the Guest Store stands, about four rods frontage on the east side of Main Street, 14 rods deep. Samuel Grant owned to the east and south. Allen apparently erected the store building and perhaps the small building in the rear before he sold for £230 in 1795 to Royal Crafts; 1798 to Isaiah Thomas of Worcester, Mass. Downstairs he had the Walpole Bookstore and upstairs his printing business. On April 11, 1793, he had begun the publication of the FARMER'S MUSEUM (see Decade to 1800).

In 1827 Thomas sold the premises to Thomas Wilder who advertised to do "painting—Coach, Chaise, House, Sign, Military Cap. Standard and all kinds of ornamental painting"; 1836 to Elnathan D. Warner; 1851 to John P. Maynard; 1852 to George G. Warner. At this time there was a lane north of the store leading to the Farnsworth house, known as Brady Lane, gate on Main Street. In 1851 High Street had been newly laid out through Warner land when he sold to George Huntington; 1877 his estate sold west portion of this land and buildings to George H. and Edward M. Holden, east part to Edward A. Mahogany and he to Oliver Martin. In 1877 E. Wells had his shoe shop here.

In 1912 Edward M. Holden sold to Clara Belle Snow. The property then included the blacksmith shop at the rear. There was apparently a harness shop in the Main Street building; 1919 to Fred H. Atwood of Westminster; 1920 to Elizabeth O. Loring of Boston, still including the blacksmith shop; 1924 to Frank W. Leete of Amherst, Mass.; 1943 to Donald B. and Doris M. Cram; 1945 to Robert G. and Pauline L. Guest "the Holden block so-called containing store and three tenements but reserving the house on premises", the Suttons residing there; 1962 to present owners.

91. GUY BEMIS: Johnson Tavern—Amasa Allen had this from Benjamin Bellows Jr. and sold 1794 to Caleb Johnson, land and buildings. Johnson had a tavern here and was also a merchant. When he bought this lot, the Red Store at south corner of Main and Westminster Streets was included. Probably he built the store on the south part of this lot; sold 1796 to Stephen Higginson of Boston the land with dwelling house, store and other buildings; 1797 to Samuel and Stephen Salisbury; 1833 to Jonathan H. and Aaron K. Chase; 1865 their heirs sold the north part of the lot with the old tavern to Frederick K. Wier; 1876 to George F. Wier; 1884 his heirs to William A. Craig; 1895 to Sarah S. Sherman; 1914 her



heir, Grace F. Sherman, to Jonathan G. Howe; 1915 to Henry A. Slade; 1946 to Guy Bemis. The house is now made into apartments. Dr. Ebenezer Morse had his office here.

The south part of the lot on which the old Johnson store building stood, the Chases sold 1859 to Mary K. Hooper of South Charlestown; 1865 to Henry Hitchcock; 1883 his heirs to James Brady of Brooklyn who tore it down in 1884. It was a two story building with first and second story piazzas. Downstairs there was a tin shop as early as 1794. Upstairs was the cabinet shop of Holland Burt, which was later used by Henry Hitchcock.

92. RICHARD BELLOWS: This was a piece from the north side of the Johnson Tavern lot with a small piece on the north side from the Bisco property next north. The south part Jonathan H. and Aaron K. Chase sold 1834 to George Kilburn; 1835 to Levi H. Griffin; 1837 to William Guild; 1851 to Mary Jane Guild; 1851 to George Aldrich; 1906 his son George T. of New York his share to his sister Mary L. Aldrich; 1918 estate to William J. Hall; 1927 estate to Richard F. Bellows.

93. RICHARD F. O'BRIEN: Henry Foster bought the old tannery lot next north; the lot was next owned by Levi H. Foster; 1882 to Dares A. DeWolf; 1885 to Mary K. Wier; about 1897 to her daughter Nellie F. Richards (Mrs. Fenelon O.); 1921 to Ola A. Hubbard; 1953 to Hubbard Farms; 1954 to Richard F. O'Brien.

TANNERY: In 1787 David Stevens, tanner, bought land here on Mad Brook; 1796, having removed to Rutland, Vt., he sold to Samuel Grant; 1811 to Daniel W. Bisco. Bisco's tannery stood on the north side of the brook about ten rods south of Mrs. Graves' house #94, and his dwelling was in what is the garden spot of the next place south. His son Leonard carried on the business for several years, 1837 sold to Harvey Reed;

"meaning to convey and sell all tanner's and currier's tools . . . giving Harvey Reed right to use water which shall flow into the pond . . . for purpose of grinding bark and carrying on the tanning and currying business for two years or such time as shall be put into operation on said premises a steam engine or some other power and machinery for carrying on aforesaid business. . . ."

January 1, 1845, the following advertisement appeared in the *N. H. Sentinel*:

"Wanted 200 cords of Hemlock Bark in exchange for leather, or half cash for first quality bark to be delivered at my tanyard in Walpole Village."

August 26, 1848, Harvey Reed sold to Henry Foster, lot where "tannery building (was) lately consumed by fire". He advertised for sale tanyard with about 30 vats.

Upstairs over the tannery the French brothers had a carriage manufactory at the time of the fire. Both businesses suffered heavy loss. Reed seems to have left Walpole; the Frenches continued business on Turnpike Street.

94. JOHN G. PARSONS: Leonard Bisco built this house while he owned the tannery next south; 1841 to Pelatiah Armstrong (Betsey L.) who was engaged in teaming to Boston; 1857, having removed to Bennington, Vt., to George Bundy; 1862 to Henry J. Watkins; 1896 to his widow; 1901 to Emma S. Graves (Mrs. Russell). She died in 1961. The Graveses added the wide portico and the second story bay window in 1905. In 1962 Emma S. Graves Estate to John G. and Katharine B. Parsons.

The land on the east side of Main Street north from Gen. Benjamin Bellows' north line (at Graves' place #94) was part of the holdings of Rev. Jonathan Leavitt. He is supposed to have had a mansion somewhere here, but nothing more is known of it. He sold 1777 to Thomas Sparhawk. The latter died intestate, his son-in-law Josiah Bellows, who had married first his daughter Rebecca and second his daughter Mary, receiving the share of each daughter from the estate. This land from the Graves' place to North Road was part of that property.

95. JOHN DAVIES STAMM: In 1865 Mary Ann Bellows (widow of Josiah 3rd) and Josiah G. Bellows sold to Henry W. S. Griswold five acres in the southwest corner of their property here, 13 rods on the street; 1874 assignees same to Frances A. Bates (Mrs. Silas). This was in the heyday of the shirt manufacturing business and the Bateses and Hoopers (next south of Jennison house) tried to outdo each other in the grandeur of their new houses, using such details as silver doorknobs, mahogany trim, spiral stairway, stairwell to third floor, fourth floor stairway entering cupola, and marble basin slabs in bathroom with copper basins. Frances A. Bates left the place to Josephine F. Houghton, to Clarence W. Houghton, to Sarah Feathers Houghton whose estate sold in 1957 to John Davies and Sarah Babbitt Stamm of New York City.

M. J. Britton occupied this place several years.

96. ERNEST L. MITCHELL: The next place north was the Bellows home for three generations. In 1814 Josiah and Mary Bellows sold five acres, 26 rods frontage, here to their son Josiah 3rd who built a plain colonial



house which his son, Josiah G., considerably embellished. The house remained in the family until after the death of Mary Bellows Quincy, daughter of Josiah G., and was sold in 1944 to the present owners.

97. HOWARD S. ANDROS:

In 1832 "after the death of her husband, Mrs. Louisa Bellows Hayward returned to Walpole to live and soon built a cottage near her father's residence and on part of his farm. Here she lived with her children until her removal to her Prospect Hill farm. While building her cottage she boarded with her uncle, Thomas Sparhawk, and it is interesting to note, as showing the cheapness of living sixty years ago, that the whole charge for board for herself, three children and nurse was \$4.50 a week." *Bellows Genealogy* P. 190 (1895).

Louisa Hayward bought the lot (13 rods on the street) in 1842; sold 1855 to James Hooper, Jr.; 1870 to Joseph H. Plaistridge; 1886 his heirs to Joseph Schnepf. He was a German, who had no connection here when he died. He lived with Eliza Floyd on the Kathan place, inherited her property, moved to the village, and left his property to the Josiah Bellows family who lived next door. The estate was settled in 1896. In 1935 Mary Bellows Quincy sold the place to Grace R. Canfield who left it to Ellen Bellows Endicott; 1950 to Howard S. and Marion W. Andros.

Because Mary Bates had rented this house, it is known as the Bates Cottage. There is some indication that there was a house here previously.

98. ESTHER M. ANDROS: In 1860 Mary Bellows sold the next lot north with 29 acres to the east to Henry G. Wheelock; 1867 to John W. Hayward; 1867 a house lot here to Dr. John W. Knight who had come to Walpole about 1852, and who had first lived on School Street. He built this house in 1868. He was clever mechanically, as well as in his profession, doing much of the building and making his furniture himself. He was much annoyed by the boys rattling his picket fence. He practiced medicine for some years, then retired and led a quiet private life. In 1902 he auctioned his household goods, sold his house to John W. Hayward, and removed to Farmington where he died in 1904.

In 1914 the Hayward heirs sold the place to Louis R. Lincoln; his son Paul R. Lincoln of Montpelier, Vt., sold 1938 to Esther M. Andros (Mrs. Charles).

## NORTH ROAD

The lot east of the houses on the east side of North Main Street was part of the Rev. Jonathan Leavitt property sold 1774 to Thomas Sparhawk; from the estate Josiah Bellows acquired from his two wives' in-

heritances; 1860 Mary Bellows sold to Henry G. Wheelock (Harriet S. H.); 1867 to John W. Hayward; 1902 to Frederic Nichols; 1933 to Nelle H. Nichols (no relation); 1933 to Everett L. Houghton; 1933 to Frank E. Mitchell (Maggie B.). The Mitchells sold as follows, from west to east:

99. ROBERT L. GALLOWAY: 1938—built house.

100. REUBEN D. HARRIMAN: In 1941 one acre to Edward W. and Elizabeth P. Foss; 1942 to Hubbard Farms; 1944 to James William and Helen Jean Haun; 1953 to present owners.

101. GILBERT W. HANSEN: In 1955 Maggie B. Mitchell to Arthur Schade; 1959 to present owners.

102. JEAN MITCHELL FARRELL: Mitchells built their home here near the turn in road. Maggie B. Mitchell willed to Jean Mitchell.

103. WILLIAM A. ALLEN: In 1955 Maggie B. Mitchell sold to the Allens of Westminster the southeast corner of her land, next to the Graves property, part way up the hill. The Allens built the house.

104. M. KENNETH MILLER: In the field part way up the hill Mr. Miller is building a house now (1962), on land he purchased in January 1962 from Maggie B. Mitchell Estate.

In 1777 Thomas Sparhawk bought Rev. Jonathan Leavitt's property. He died intestate and the property was divided as follows:

To Thomas Jr., 54 acres north corner North and Hubbard Roads.

To Josiah Bellows (son-in-law), 44 acres south corner North and Main Streets, and Von Lackum property at head of Main Street.

To Samuel, 60 acres between North and Reservoir Roads.

To Oliver, 50 acres opposite Sabin Rock.

To Hubbard, 50 acres at Sabin Rock.

To widow Rebecca, an interest in the Von Lackum property and the land of Thomas and Samuel.

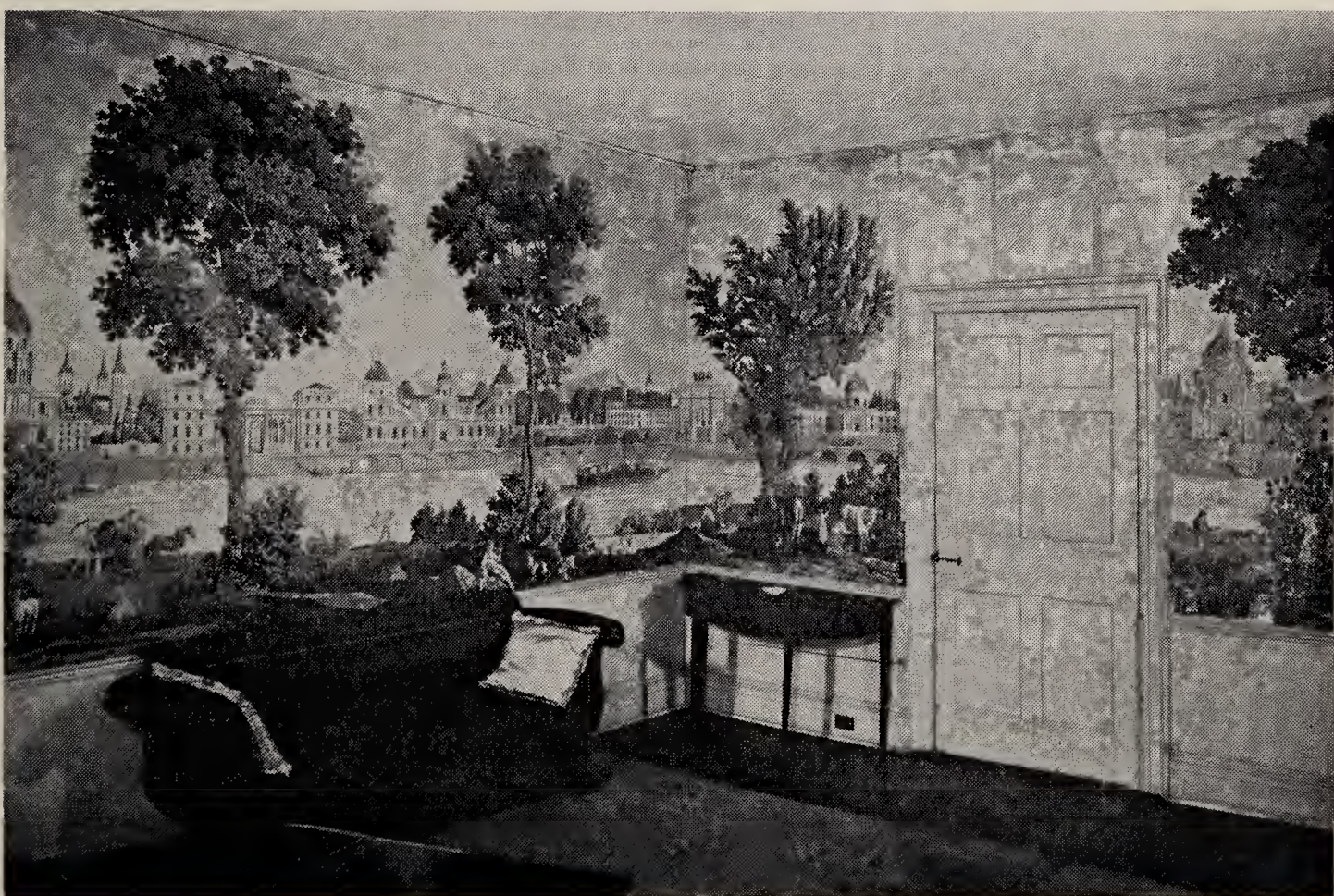
105. WALTER J. KAZIMIER: This house is on what was Thomas Sparhawk Jr.'s share of his father's estate. He built the house, it is said, to cut off the view from what had been his father's house. Of his nine children, only George married. He lived in Rockingham. Charles, Rebecca and Mary lived on the home place. Thomas C. Sparhawk and his sister Mary Octavia had the place from the other heirs. He died in 1904, she in 1910. Mr. Ira Hubbard remembers today the remarkable fact that Thomas Sparhawk, in the days before window screens were in common





KNAPP HOUSE in 1959, south side (#207)

*(Lib. Cong.)*



ORIGINAL WALLPAPER IN KNAPP HOUSE (#207)

*(Lib. Cong.)*





PORTER HOUSE in 1959 (#174)

*(Lib. Cong.)*



BUFFUM HOUSE in 1959 (#178)

*(Lib. Cong.)*





PECK HOUSE in 1959 (#172)

*(Lib. Cong.)*



JENNISON HOUSE in 1959 (#112)

*(Lib. Cong.)*





DOORWAY TO JENNISON HOUSE in 1959 (#112)  
(*Lib. Cong.*)



AARON HOWLAND HOUSE in 1959 (#54)  
(*Lib. Cong.*)



"INDIAN SHUTTER" IN PECK HOUSE in 1959 (#172)  
(*Lib. Cong.*)



SIGN OF THE WATKINS TAVERN (#410)  
(*Lib. Cong.*)





BRICK SMOKE HOUSE AT BUFFUM HOUSE (#178)

*(Lib. Cong.)*



FIREPLACE IN BEMIS HOUSE (#3)

*(Lib. Cong.)*





THE ORDINARY IN BUFFUM HOUSE (#178)  
Where History Committee Met

*(Lib. Cong.)*



HALL AT HOOPER GOLF CLUB (#410)

*(Lib. Cong.)*





“HISTORICAL HOUSE” with Mrs. Kate Weymouth about 1895 (#27)



OLD SETTLER BOOKSHOP about 1950 (#270)

(Harris)





ABRAHAM HOLLAND HOUSE before 1892 (#459)



THE GILBERT ESTATE after 1900 (#459)





GEN. BENJAMIN BELLOWS HOUSE before 1888 (#139)



DAVID BUFFUM HOUSE at left about 1870 (#140)  
ABRAHAM JACKSON HOUSE at right (#141)





VIEW TOWARD THE NORTHEAST FROM TOWN HOUSE TOWER in 1873



VIEW TOWARD THE EAST FROM TOWN HOUSE TOWER in 1873





VIEW TOWARD THE SOUTHEAST FROM TOWN HOUSE TOWER in 1873



VIEW NORTH FROM KNAPP'S HILL in 1868





JOSIAH G. BELLOWS HOUSE about 1955 (#96)

*(Harris)*



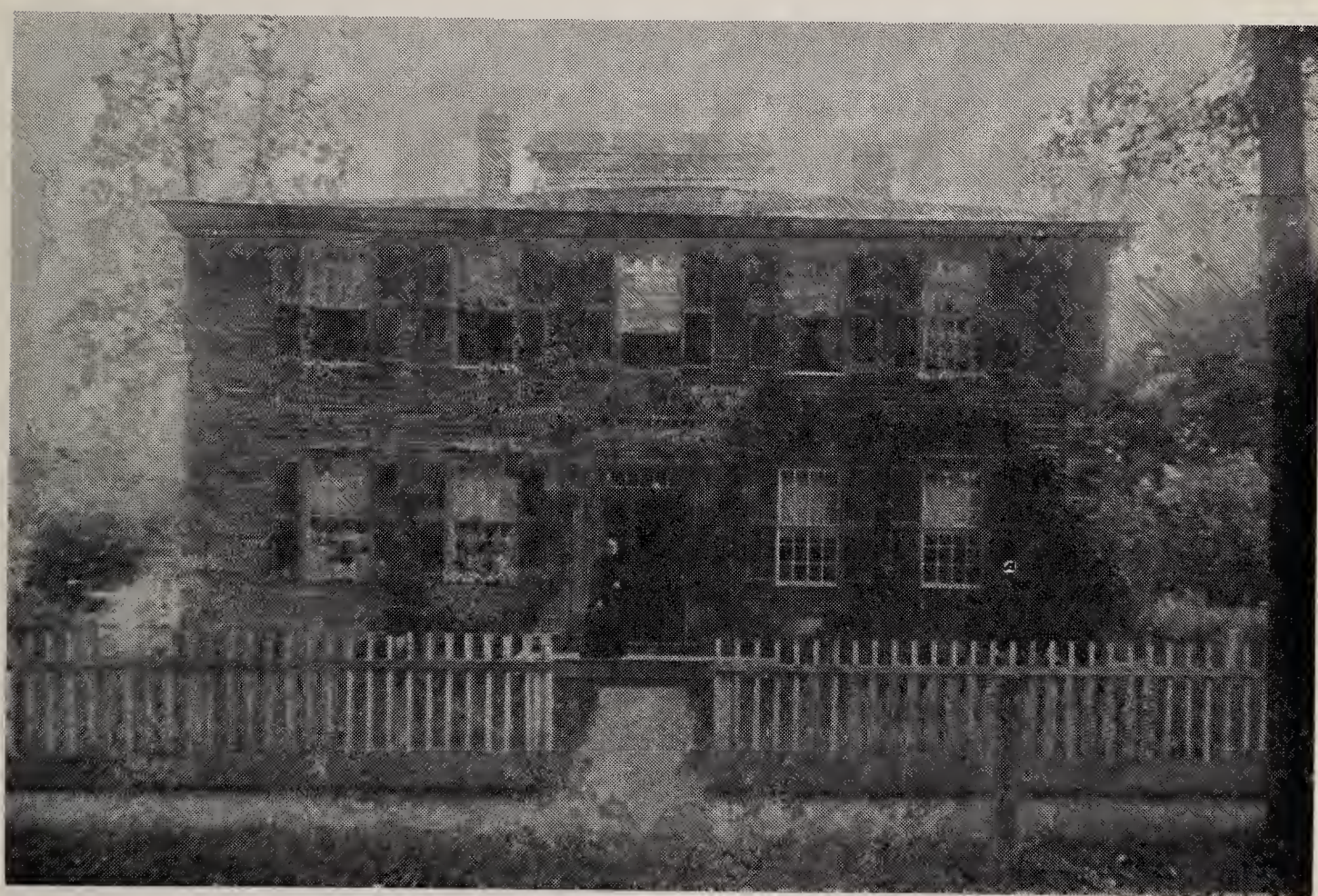
STEPHEN ROWE BRADLEY HOUSE about 1955 (#66)

*(Harris)*





IRA HUBBARD HOUSE about 1960 (#460)



TITUS HOUSE about 1880 (#175)





THE HOMESTEAD about 1955 (#471)



HARRIS HOUSE about 1955 (#191)

*(Harris)*





MOSES FISHER HOUSE before 1906 (#444)



BURT HOMESTEAD about 1900 (#243)





ENDICOTT HOUSE about 1955 (#205)

*(Harris)*



HOOPER GOLF CLUB FROM 9th FAIRWAY about 1950 (#110)



use, was never bothered by house flies. This fact was worthy of note, because to most housekeepers in those days, flies were a large annoyance. In 1904 she sold to her nephew Charles E. Sargent and his son Clarence H. Sargent. The Sargents sold the land in 1908 to the Gilberts. In 1916, the buildings were sold to Colgate Gilbert; 1956 his heirs to Walter J. and Marie F. Kazimier.

The barn burned in 1920.

106. LESLIE HUBBARD: In 1954, the Gilberts sold east  $34\frac{1}{2}$  acres to Leslie Hubbard who built a house.

107. ROBERT W. GILES: The Gileses bought from the estate of Alice C. Gilbert one and one-half acres of land with buildings. The house was on land originally a part of Thomas Sparhawk Jr.'s share of his father's estate. The rest of the land was the northwest corner of the share of his brother Samuel. Mrs. Gilbert had owned the two lots since 1908 and 1913 respectively and she built the house, or allowed the Unitarian minister to build it, to be used as a summer camp at first.

108. KATHARINE BUTLER PARSONS: This was Samuel Sparkhawk's share of his father's estate. In 1810, Samuel, then living in Keene, sold to Joseph Bellows Jr.; 1812 to Roger Vose; 1854 to Thomas G. Wells (Elisabeth); 1857 to Frederic A. Wier; 1860 to Addison Miller. The Millers sold the northwest seven acres to James Hooper Jr.; he to Horace A. Perry 1873; he to Richard Burton 1906; to Florence E. Wood 1907; to Alice C. Gilbert 1913.

In 1865 Addison Miller (Asenath) sold to George H. Foster this farm on which the Millers then lived; 1876 George H. Foster, then of Framingham, Mass., to Levi H. Foster who bequeathed to Mary A. Foster, and she to her daughter Julia A. Turner; 1901 to Harry J. Stowell; 1917 to Colgate Gilbert, who rented the property to various people; 1924 Esther M. Gilbert (wife of Colgate) to Granville and Lucetta Leonard of Westminster, Vt., this and another piece of land to the north; in 1929 to the present owner.

#### MAIN STREET, EAST SIDE, SOUTH FROM HIGH STREET

109. MACDONALD STORE: In 1792 Amasa Allen bought from Benjamin Bellows Jr. a 50 foot lot on the east side of Main Street, including the present High Street and to the south. The southwest corner of the lot was five feet south of Allen's store which was already on the lot. In 1806 Allen bought from Samuel Grant an additional 66 ft. east of his store.



In 1794 John Carlisle established a boot and shoemaking business at the place formerly occupied by William Pierce, next door south of the printing office. 1815-1822 Allen leased the property to Samuel Grant and Leonard Stone.

In 1822 Betsey Gilchrist of Grafton, heir of Allen, sold to William Mitchell, saddler.

In 1836 the property went to William M. Mitchell and, after his death, reverted in 1841 to George Allen; 1842 to Otis Bardwell; 1855 to Major J. Britton.

Judge Josiah Bellows thus remembers him: "Somewhere about 1845 one Major J. Britton came to town to keep store, in the Slade Butcher Shop (1905). He was the possessor of very luxuriant and rapidly growing whiskers, and one Saturday evening after he shut up his store, he went to Mitchell's to be shaved for Sunday Church. After he was comfortably seated in the barber's chair, lathered, and his face half scraped, he discovered to his horror that old Mitchell was extremely drunk, and his life was in imminent danger from the uncertain hand that held the razor. He strove to rise, saying that the shaving should be finished Monday morning, but Mitchell literally held him by the nose, as has been the custom of barbers from time immemorial, and when he started to get up, with a great tweak of his nasal protuberance, forced him back into his chair, saying, 'Mr. Britton, you came in to be shaved, and you must be shaved, Sit down.'"

In another chapter he continues: "Major J. Britton was a marked man, filled with that sense of his own importance that induced him, although literally without education, to assume the knowledge of a sage. He was a good man, kindly of heart, and a most admirable citizen, a devout attendant and warm supporter of the Unitarian Church. By this he attracted the admiration and attention of the late Chief Justice Bellows. So when the good judge was holding court in Keene a case was called up before him where Major Britton happened to be one of the panel to try it. As soon as the jury list was handed to him by the clerk the judge, passing by the turned up slip with which that official had indicated whom he thought the proper man for foreman, said at once 'Major J. Britton, the court appoints you foreman of this jury'. With all his native shrewdness, Major Britton could hardly write and was entirely unfitted for the duty placed upon him. The case proved to be one of considerable magnitude, a matter of rather intricate accounting, which had been tried before the late Judge Vose as auditor, and then carried to a jury, from his finding. After three or four days' hard trial the jury retired and finally returned. The clerk made the usual proclamation: 'Mr. Foreman, have you agreed on a verdict?' 'Yes,' said Mr. Britton rising, 'We think Judge Vose was about right.' Imagine the consternation that reigned, and how all Judge Bellows' admiration turned to wrath. Of course he sent the jury out again and they reduced their wise verdict, for Judge Vose was a very wise man, to writing."

In 1869 Edwin K. Seabury bought the property and sold to John A. Blake, blacksmith, who died in 1876. Acting as guardian for Blake's minor children, Seabury sold in 1880 to George P. Porter.

In 1873 Ed Randall of Alstead opened a boot and shoemaker's shop



here; in 1874, Charles A. Howard opened a furniture store. Henry E. Hewey was a barber here 1887.

In 1891 the property was sold to B. Frank Webster (Maggie) and Matthew Gorham, who had a market together for 17 years. Then Gorham ran the market for three years. Gorham was later in business in Massachusetts, returned to Walpole in 1902. In 1904 this was Slade's market. In 1903 Mrs. Mary D. Gorham bought Webster's share of the property; her husband died in 1908, and in 1914 she sold to Charles S. Bain; 1920 to George E. Wheeler (in Florida now); 1945 to Blair and Ruth Baldwin; 1947 to Alexander MacDonald. In 1953 he enlarged his store.

Harvey Ball had a jewelry store here, bought old clocks, and repaired and sold profitably. He was later very successful as a photographer. This and the next building north are the oldest business buildings in town.

110. CENTRAL GARAGE—MRS. DORIS P. GRISWOLD: In 1795 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold the second 50 foot lot to his brother Josiah Bellows, trader, who already had a store here when he bought the land. An advertisement in the *Museum* read "1794 Bellows & Redington at their store—Tallow for sale by ton, 100 wt. or lb." In 1796 Josiah Bellows sold to Thomas and Isaac Redington who seem to have already had the store; 1798 to Benjamin Bellows Jr.; 1799 to Josiah Bellows 2nd and David Stone, "land on which their store stands." According to the *Bellows Genealogy*, Stone's partner was his brother-in-law Roswell Bellows, which partnership was dissolved June 1801.

In 1806 they sold to Joseph Bellows Jr., their cousin. He had kept tavern April 1796-April 1799. According to the *Museum*, he began merchandise business in Walpole, probably taking over when Josiah Bellows 2nd and David Stone dissolved their partnership. Because of misfortunes in business about 1812 or 1813, Joseph Bellows Jr. retired from business and removed to Rockingham where he died in 1821. In Walpole he resided in the house which then stood on the north corner of Main and Middle Streets. About the time he went out of business Samuel Dana and Thomas Bellows 2nd began, continuing until they were financially embarrassed in 1820, when the bank took over this property. In 1827 Thomas Bellows owned it, buying whatever right Joseph's widow had in it. He probably rented it to others, sold to Hiram Nichols, saddler. It appears that Nichols also made shoes and had others working for him; 1840 sold to David Buffum.

Born in 1803, David Buffum came to Walpole in 1820 at the age of 17. For three years he clerked for his brother William in his store, then be-



came William's partner for 14 years. For three years, he was in partnership with Thomas Seaver. In 1840 he was in partnership with Henry H. Baxter for six months, 1841 with Francis Bellows (1819-1880), who began his business career here as a clerk. In 1842 or 1843 Francis Bellows removed to New York.

In 1849 Col. David Buffum sold the business to his son Thomas B., who continued until the store burned in 1859. In 1861 Thomas B. formed a partnership with his father, continuing for five years. In 1871 he retired from business because of his health.

In 1879 the Holdens had a meat market in the basement of this block, moving that year to their own Huntington Block.

In 1895 Frank A. Spaulding bought; 1896 to Edwin K. Seabury; to Patrick Drislane; Lizzie M. Drislane Chapin of Keene 1917 to Willie P. Craig and Roy L. Mullen. Craig was killed in a hunting accident. The property was sold 1921 to Clarence W. Houghton; 1958 Dorothy M. Houghton, administrator of estate of Sadie F. Houghton to Mrs. Doris P. Griswold of Rockingham.

The town library was here until it burned in 1859. The present brick building is nearly on the same site.

111. SITE OF LIBRARY—THIRD LOT SOUTH OF HIGH STREET: In 1795 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to his son-in-law, Samuel Grant, six rods on Main Street. On the northwest corner he had a saddler shop. However, care of his wife's extensive land holdings took so much of his attention that he had to give up his own business. He sold this corner with building thereon in 1814 to Capt. Timothy Ware (Hannah), who came from Wrentham, Mass. From 1805-16 Capt. Ware owned #448 on Ramsay Hill. He was a brother of Mrs. William Guild and Mrs. Ezra Hixon. He sold 1818 (still a saddler's shop) to Leonard Stone, probably the same man who owned the Galen Tiffany place #271 on Rt. 12 in 1821-2; 1819 to Jonathan Cutler, goldsmith, wife Phebe; 1831 he had removed to Putney and sold to Lovell Farr (Lucia).

Deacon Thomas Seaver came to Walpole about 1803 from Northboro, Mass., and married Eunice Redington, sister of Thomas and Isaac. He soon commenced trade and continued in business more than 40 years. He kept various kinds of goods for sale, but he was principally an apothecary, compounding and selling drugs and medicines, among others a liniment which was very popular for a time and met a ready sale. Seaver's store was neatly fitted with counters on three sides, in back of which were drawers with names of medicines he had in stock. On



Seaver's death the liniment recipe and the fixtures went to Deacon Lovejoy, later to C. C. Davis.

Seaver was proverbially a pious and peace-loving citizen and a constant attendant at public worship. It is said he offered to give land for the new Orthodox Church, but the deacons refused the offer on the grounds that he sold liquor in his store. He was one of the early pillars of that church and for many years one of its deacons. He lived to the ripe old age of 90 years.

His son Thomas Henry, born 1818, was a merchant, and was at one time in business with his father. It seems fairly certain that the Seaver store was on the site of the library, but the ownership is obscure. Possibly he rented for some years before buying from Farr 1839. In 1845 the firm name was T. Seaver & Co. The building was a long wooden one with Seaver's store in south part. In the north part Peck says Henry Allen lived, and had a livery stable in rear.

Lovell Farr removed to Brattleboro and sold the property, described then as having a house thereon, in 1853 to Benjamin Willis Jr.; Willis removed the house. (See #83.)

In 1859 he sold his holdings to John and Elvira Jennison, who sold this lot in 1862 to David Buffum who owned the next lot north; his heirs to Hudson E. Bridge 1890. In 1891, after adding to this lot 17 feet from Jennison land, Bridge built the Bridge Memorial Library which he gave to the Town of Walpole. (See Library.) His father is supposed to have been born in the house on the site.

112. FRANCES E. JENNISON: On that part of his lot next south of the present library, Samuel Grant built for himself what is now the Jennison house. In 1802 Bellows sold to him another piece adjoining his, the south line being the Ravine Brook, east to the present Turner Farm (then James Fuller), along North Road about 40 rods to the Sparhawk Farm, then along Sparhawk's south line to Grant's previous lot.

In 1846 George W. Grant (Sarah B.) sold the Grant house and most of the land to Benjamin Willis Jr. Josiah G. Bellows wrote of the Wells-Willis family:

"This family came from Boston sometime about 1845. Mr. Wells, head of the family, was then a man in early middle life, rather bright mentally, somewhat irascible in temper, and possessing a burning discontent with the business world in which, thus far, he had not been a success. The family came here under the direction, and I fancy at the charge of Mrs. Wells' father, Benjamin Willis. Quite an old man at the time he came here, he had led a successful business life, and having modest ambitions had retired early from the struggle. He was not a man of much education or refinement,



and showed in himself very fully the effect of a life devoted to trade from boyhood. He was very fond of his toddy and prone often to extend his matutinal 11 o'clock until he became very garrulous and at times, cross.

"Calvin J. Holden kept our hotel (what had been the Crafts Tavern) then in looks and manner the ideal old-fashioned tavern keeper: short in stature, immense in paunch and head, a devotee of Bacchus, and with an abundance of coarse country tavern wit. The wags said that when Willis came to town he had Holden put up a pipe of Holland gin, and that when he had the pipe drank up (it held somewhere from 60 to 100 gallons) he packed his trunk and went away.

"With Benjamin Willis came his father, also Benjamin, and some 25 years older than his son. That means the older man must have been then between 80 and 90. The father and son were quite notable figures in our village streets for several years, and it forms one of the distinct pictures of my early days, how these old cocks looked and acted as they walked out together. My good mother was the special admiration of these old birds, particularly of the older Benjamin, who often used to make his evening call on her, and my two older brothers were deputed to escort him home through the darkness which prevailed in our village streets.

"It was rather hard at times for poor Mrs. Wells that she was thus compelled to pass so many years of her life in close companionship with three men so mighty disagreeable in many ways; but she was one of the angelic kind, having every feminine virtue except beauty. She came from the Boston Mays, a family greatly distinguished for its philanthropy and progressiveness, a Unitarian of Unitarians, a peace disciple—for in those days the progressives really believed in the millennium. . . . Mrs. Wells had four children born here and one after she left us. Henry, her eldest boy was just my age and my bosom friend and constant companion. One might paraphrase for him the well-known description of the strawberry: 'doubtless God might have made a homelier boy, but doubtless he never did'. He was rather bright, too, and a boy of much individuality. Eliza, the older sister, was also really homely, but with such charm of manner and bearing that we almost considered her the village beauty. Eliza and Henry have long since passed to another world; and of the living I ought not to speak."

In 1859 Benjamin Willis sold the place to John Jennison and his wife Elvira. When they died their son George moved down from his farm to their house which is still owned and occupied by the family, now by Fanny, the last of his four daughters.

113. JACOB KOSON JR.: In 1863 John Jennison sold the south part of the lot to Charles Hooper who built the house now standing here. It was elegantly finished and equipped. In 1891 George D. and Warren L. Hooper sold to Helen A. Bridge; 1894 her other children sold their shares to Amy Bridge Hastings who modernized the place; 1926 her heirs to Bayard T. and Louise C. Mousley who had a hospital in the building east of the house on Main Street; 1941 Dr. Mousley had died and Mrs. Mousley sold to Walpole Savings Bank; 1942 to Community Hospital; 1945 to Walpole Post #77 American Legion; 1954 to Raoul J. and Emma



M. McKenven; 1958 to Richard N. and Barbara M. Aldrich; 1961 to Jacob Koson Jr.

## HIGH STREET, SOUTH SIDE

114. WALPOLE VILLAGE FIRE PRECINCT: In 1886 George Jennison sold to the Walpole Village Fire Precinct a lot for a fire house on the south side of High Street, east of the stores facing on Main Street. It was later used by veterans, and is now used for storage.

115. GILBERT L. CHANDLER: In 1907 Mrs. Jennison and daughters sold another lot next east of the fire station on High Street to Frank A. Spaulding; 1920 to Emma V. H. Peck; 1956 to her son Hubert Peck; 1958 to Gilbert L. and Grace E. Chandler.

116. PETER A. BOUDRIEAU: In 1897 Peck had sold a house lot from the west side of the lot below to Nancy Podwin, who built in 1897; 1919 to son George H. Podwin; 1946 his widow and heirs to Ruth E. and James E. Nelson; 1948 to Lena R. Podwin; 1953 to John W. and Mary E. Good; 1953 to Peter A. and Hazel E. Boudrieau.

117. ALMON E. WELCH: In 1869 John Jennison sold to James L. Mitchell the lot on the southwest corner of High and School Streets; 1883 to Eleanor V. Mitchell; 1892 Rebecca B. Mitchell and Eleanor V. Hutton to Thomas B. Peck who built the house; 1916 Edith Russell, heir of Peck, to Sylvia M. Guild and Flora Bowman; 1945 to George F. Jr. and M. Jeanette Lawrence; 1949 to Peter E. and Mary A. Schmitt; 1953 to Inez Goodrich of Springfield, Ohio; 1955 to Almon E. and Myra K. Welch.

## SOUTH SIDE OF HIGH STREET EAST OF BROOK

In 1862 and 1863 John and Elvira Jennison sold to James L. Mitchell the tract east of the Academy, south of High Street and north of the Ravine. In 1885 the property came to Eleanor V. Mitchell and to Rebecca B. Mitchell with barn thereon; 1892 to Edward Bellows. He was a retired Navy Paymaster who lived at the hotel and devoted his time to his horses, which he kept here at his barn. He took great pride in his horses. He had enlisted at the beginning of the Civil War and remained in the service. He died in May 1903. In August, to settle his estate, there was a big auction at the Town Hall of his horses and his collection of china from all over the world.

Commodore Henry Bellows Robeson bought this property in 1905; 1920 Katherine Bellows Robeson, his widow, sold to Wilber F. Wallace;



1920 to Henry A. Slade; 1927 to Leslie G. and Minnie L. Converse, the land east of the brook; 1929 to C. Lyman Worden who was the last man in town to have a team of workhorses. Worden lived alone in the living quarters at the barn. He wore a handlebar mustache and bushy whiskers, and worked for Woodward; 1957 to Clifford S. Chickering and Chester R. Wing Jr.; 1957 to Milton A. and Marie A. Quinlar, except the land sold to Roberts. In 1951 Worden had sold the east part, 906 ft. on High Street, to Richard B. and Dora A. Roberts.

118. TOWN OF WALPOLE: In 1926 Henry A. Slade sold out of this tract the part west of Ravine Brook, east side of School Street, to Town of Walpole who built town garage.

119. RUTH HOWARD WELLS: In 1937 the town sold to Ralph Podwin the little house north of the garages; 1939 to Mrs. Ellen T. Arnold; 1945 her son Fred J. Smith of Rockingham to Louis and Ruth Wells.

120. MILTON A. QUINLAR: Near the site of the old barn, which has been demolished, and on land purchased 1959 from Chickering and Wing, a new house has been built 1962.

121. RICHARD A. WELLS: 1953 Richard B. Roberts to Marie and Milton Quinlar; 1962 to present owners.

122. ALEXANDER W. PODWIN: 1957 Dora A. Roberts Graves to present owners.

123. EVERETT A. GASSETT: 1954 Richard Roberts to Milton and Marie Quinlar; 1960 to present owners.

124. CLARENCE SWAIN: 1952 Richard Roberts to Frederick H. and B. Grace Koon; 1956 to present owners who bought the next lot west from Quinlars in 1961.

## RAVINE

In 1930 Ellen B. Robinson (Endicott), Robert P. Bellows, Louisa B. Knapp and Frederick B. Knapp deeded to Walpole Village District "Land to be held in trust as a memorial to Henry Whitney Bellows and Frederick Newman Knapp who acquired it 69 years ago that it might be preserved in its natural beauty . . . said tract being all of our undivided shares known as upper part of Academy Ravine with all the rights of way, etc., including those under the deed of the lower part of said Ravine. . . . Said tract conveyed under the following conditions: to be used for park, recreation and educational purposes for benefit of citizens and residents of and visitors to Walpole; only such trees shall be removed as may be desirable



as adding to beauty and safety of said Ravine and for forming paths and other legitimate arrangements leaving Ravine in its natural state as nearly as practicable; the District shall put Ravine in custody of trustees, one or more being selected by the District itself and one by each of organizations most interested in the welfare of the village; the organizations selected and further conditions under which said trust shall be administered shall be determined by District from time to time; the trustees shall see that conditions protecting the beauty of lower part of Ravine and rights named in said Bellows-Knapp to Mitchell deed are adhered to. Conditions of this gift may be modified by vote of the District and approval of President of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests if recorded in Cheshire County Registry of Deeds. If conditions of this deed are not satisfied or said District relinquishes tract, it shall revert to said Society to be used or transferred for public benefit at its discretion. This is not a part of this conveyance, but it is the hope of the grantors that the whole Academy Ravine will be used as a part of Bellows-Knapp Trail from Main Street of the Village over old Academy and old school grounds up Academy Ravine to the old road at the head of the Ravine and follow this old road to Knapp Cranberry Meadow and Meeting House Hill Farm." This tract was all a part of Gen. Benjamin Bellows' holdings in the village and for the most part the dividing line between what Caleb Bellows had on the south and Phebe Bellows Grant had on the north.

#### NORTH ROAD FROM HIGH STREET TO RESERVOIR ROAD

At the top of the hill on North Road was the Peter Reynolds place, out of the old Grant holdings. In 1845 George W. Grant sold to Orin Bunker (Mary or May); 1854 to Sherman Watkins who sold to Reynolds. This was along the northeast line of the old Lot #2 in 5th Range. In 1857 Reynolds bought another six acres to the north to the corner of High Street and North Road, part of Lot #1 in 5th Range. His house stood on the curve in the road at the top of the hill and is still standing, owned and occupied by Raymond Houghton, #126.

125. CHARLES FARNSWORTH: Reynolds' daughter, Ellen R. Murphy of Jersey City, sold the first plot on north in 1907 to Mrs. Emily C. Fisher; 1921 to Town of Walpole; 1934 to Adeline Chickering; 1935 to Leslie and Rose Swain. The west two acres they sold in 1943 to Clarence Swain; 1947 to Richard C. Swain; 1953 to Charles Farnsworth.

126. RAYMOND O. HOUGHTON: The next place east the Swains sold (four acres) to Francis M. and Gladys E. Shulenberger; 1947 to Frank E. and Harriet M. Ude; 1950 to Harvey L. and Emma E. Allen. They sold two acres 1950 to Paul L. and Helen Costin; 1951 to John R. and Mildred Fennessy; 1956 to Raymond O. and Arlene C. Houghton.

127. JIRA T. JENNINGS: Next east Leslie Swain sold 1944 to Louise K. Chickering; 1949 she sold part of the lot to Harvey L. Allen. He also bought part of the Shulenberger-Ude lot and added a part of that lot



to the above and sold 1957 to Dwight L. and Elizabeth R. McKechnie; 1962 to present owners.

128. EDWARD T. GRAVES: Next east is the Edward Graves property, a part of what Louise K. Chickering sold 1949 to James E. and Ruth E. Nelson; 1953 to Herbert R. and Irene D. Burchstead; 1954 to Edward T. and Barbara K. Graves.

129. SHELDON E. ALLEN: South of the Graves property, back from the highway, is the house of Sheldon E. and Helen E. Allen. In 1950 Louise K. Chickering sold to Oscar J. Thayer; 1953 to the Allens.

130. HOWARD R. IVES: On the corner next to what was the road to the Hill Meeting House is the place of Howard Ives which was purchased 1955 from James E. Nelson.

#### CONTINUATION OF MAIN STREET, EAST SIDE, SOUTH FROM HIGH STREET

131. WALPOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Gen. Benjamin Bellows left to his son Caleb his home place east side Main Street from Grant's line south to Ormsby's; 1817 to Samuel and Phebe Grant; 1831 to Walpole Academy; 1853 Academy to School District #1; 1950 to Walpole Historical Society, the old Academy on Main Street.

132 & 133. EUGENE P. CRAY: In 1950 the School District sold the school buildings on the east end of the academy lot to Eugene P. Cray who made them into apartments.

#### SCHOOL STREET, EAST SIDE

134. GORDON H. FLETCHER: (opposite Academy Lot)—This lot was along the north line of that part of General Bellows' land which his son Caleb had, east of the academy land, near the Ravine. In 1836 Thomas Bellows, Jacob N. Knapp, Abel Bellows, Josiah Bellows 3rd and Ephraim Holland sold to Asa Griffin, who had a gristmill here, with steam engine and mill stones; 1837 mortgaged, lost to William Jennison, Frederick Vose and William H. Gage, who sold their interests 1839 and 1843 to Charles Sparhawk; 1859 his heirs to William Ramsay Jr. (Sarah); 1860 to Sherman Watkins (Harriet L.); 1867 to James L. Mitchell; 1883 his estate to Alma Chandler (Henry F.). Chandler had a slaughterhouse which was later converted into a blacksmith shop, and has since been removed. In 1906, the Chandlers had removed to Rockingham, sold to Bartholomew Kiniry; 1954 Bridget Kiniry to Gordon H. and Dorothy J. Fletcher.



135. ROBERT S. ALDRICH: In 1836 the same academy group sold to Susan Robeson the next piece south on the east side of School Street, about 14 acres, extending easterly along the south side of the Ravine; 1836 a half-acre house lot in the northwest corner on the street to Asa Titus who probably built the house; 1842 to William W. Graves, who lost the property in 1846 on a judgment to John J. Prentiss of Claremont; 1849 to Anson (Sally) Lawrence and Uriah (Mary) Newton; 1854 to Ozias S. Morris (Rebecca C.) of Sunapee; 1857 to William Farnham; 1869 Olive Thurston and Esther T. Underwood of Westminster to Frederick J. Hubbard; 1877 to his wife Julietta Hubbard; 1892 to Fred A. Hatch; 1893 to Hattie M. Fisher; 1921 heirs to Katherine Warn whose second husband was Harry W. Ramsay; his estate 1952 to Raoul J. and Emma M. McKenven; 1954 to present owners.

136. MARY RUSSELL: Next south from Robert Aldrich, Susan Robeson sold another house lot in 1836 to William T. Farr, who probably built the house; 1844 to Simeon Ballou (through Otis Bardwell); 1847 to Hartshorn Wight; 1850 to George W. Cowdery of Westmoreland, barber; 1897 his widow, Selina P.'s estate to Minnie E. Burt; 1911 to Frank M. Russell, whose widow Mary now owns the property.

137. DOROTHY WHITNEY: The main part of her lot on the east side of School Street Susan Robeson sold 1851 to James M. Burroughs; 1855 to Major J. Britton (Jane); to J. William Knight (Gratia J.), land and buildings; 1865 to Samuel D. Learned (Cynthia P.); 1869 to Eben Burr; 1873 to Thomas B. Buffum; 1884 to John C. Howard of Westmoreland, wife Emma; 1902, then of Somerville, Mass., sold to Edward J. Snow; 1907 to Dorothy Whitney of Melrose, Mass.

138. OLIVER J. HUBBARD: The same academy group sold to Abel Bellows (Julia) a  $\frac{4}{5}$  interest (he already had  $\frac{1}{5}$ ) in the next south 13 acres; to David Buffum in 1874; 1901 to Everett L. Houghton, who built the house; 1908 to John H. Williams; 1927 his widow Merab B. to Oliver J. Hubbard.

#### UNION STREET, NORTH SIDE

This was a part of Gen. Benjamin Bellows' holdings; the Grants bought from Caleb Bellows.

139. HAROLD S. PUTNAM: The lot on Main Street, including the old Gen. Benjamin Bellows' house, built 1766, changed owners more or less in the family until 1839, when it was sold to Thomas Bellows; 1852 to Edward Crosby (Eliza); 1857 to Henry P. Foster who came from his farm on Went-



worth Road to live here; 1886 to Dr. Abel Richardson (Sylvia). In 1888, the original house was torn down and replaced with the present structure. (For detailed description see *Bellows Falls Times* Apr. 3, 1889.) 1906 to Charlotte G. and Alexander Davidson; 1917 to Willis C. Foster, Mary and Hannah Callahan; 1946 heirs to Albert J. and Mary Frances Jancewicz; 1949 to Forrest W. and Thelma W. Pinkham; 1956 to Raymond H. and Ruth M. Presby (agriculture teacher); 1959 to present owners.

140. ESTATE GEORGE S. HARRIS: In 1829 the Grants sold to David Buffum 13 rods on Main Street (Union Street was not laid then). This property remained in the family until 1928 when it was sold to George S. and Anne S. Harris.

The following is an abstract of the building contract now in the Historical Society Museum:

Memorandum of an agreement made the fifth day of March AD 1835, between George Kilburn of Walpole . . . & David Buffum of said Walpole. . . .

The said Kilburn agrees to build for said Buffum a two story house, low part to the same, wood house & barn agreeably to plans . . . to be erected on said Buffum's House lot in Walpole Village. The said Kilburn is to dig and stone a cellar under the whole of the two story part of the house, the wall to be of good stone well laid and pointed . . . & the cellar to be suitably lighted. . . . To have a piassa of one story . . . with fluted columns. . . . The two west fireplaces of the lower story to be freestone. The outside of the house to be finished with a good rich straight moulding cornice around the two story part & the piassa. The windows in the two story part to be of Keene glass 11 by 15 inches, & those in the two front parlours to be hung with weights. The parlour windows to be finished with shutters & those rooms to have sliding doors. . . . To be a Venitian window in the west pediment. . . . The style of finish of the house to be as good as Mr. Ephraim Holland's.

The outside of the house & low part to be well painted white with three coats. The barn and woodhouse with two coats of yellow. The front part of the inside of the two story part . . . to be well painted white, & the rest of the inside . . . with yellow & slate colour.

The whole to be finished by the first day of December next.

And the said Buffum agrees, when the above is completed, to convey to said Kilburn . . . that part of his house lot which is bounded as follows, to wit, Beginning at the north west corner thereof, thence on the main street to the north garden fence, thence easterly in a line with said fence about fifteen rods to the west side of the most easterly apple tree, thence parallel with the first mentioned line to the academy land thence on said Academy land to the place of beginning, with buildings thereon, and all the privilege of water which he now holds and also pay to said Kilburn the sum of four hundred dollars. . . .

. . . .

DAVID BUFFUM

GEORGE KILBURN



141. MRS. OSCAR GAST: Abraham Jackson, a Congregational minister, built the present Gast house on the east end of the Buffum lot, probably in 1838. In 1865 Jackson, then of Fall River, Mass., sold to Thomas B. Buffum; 1889 to B. Frank Webster (Maggie), who was in business with Matthew Gorham. In 1897 Webster sold to Lucius S. Howe; 1903 to George Sabin, whose daughters lived there. The property was later owned by Rev. Samuel R. Maxwell; 1949 to Theron B. and Esther C. Thompson; 1952 to Oscar A. and Mertie D. Gast of Charlestown, who sold their place there to Eleanor Sawyer. Thompson had removed to North Brookfield, Mass.

#### UNION STREET, SOUTH SIDE

142. UNITARIAN CHURCH AND PARISH HOUSE: This was the north four rod strip across the lot Jones and Swan had sold in 1797 to Stephen Ormsby. He lived here and lost the property in 1819 to Josiah Bellows, the house being moved in 1840 to Middle Street to make way for the new church. (See *AH* 342.)

The Parish House east of the church was erected in 1898 as a memorial to Mrs. Amy Bridge Hastings. It was designed by Thomas Hastings and built by Beckwith of Claremont.

The Parsonage east of the Parish House was built in 1848. (See Churches.)

143. ROCCO CARMEN MITTICA: In 1922, the trustees of the Walpole Congregational Society (Unitarian) sold the southwest corner at School and Union Streets to Marion Spaulding Cahalane (Reginald Foster Cahalane), who built the house here; 1934 to Ernest L. Bell of Keene; 1934 to Bessie W. Pierce; 1956 she left it to Crotched Mt. Foundation, which sold it to Rocco Carmen and Joan Gail Mittica.

#### MAIN STREET, SOUTH OF UNION TO SCHOOL STREET

144. HERMON O. WOODWARD: Charles Stratton, who was a cooper, lived here with his wife for nearly 50 years. The next owner was his son-in-law Augustus Faulkner; 1911 Harry C. Faulkner to Jennie A. Hawks; 1917 Charles Hawks to Hermon O. Woodward.

145. OSCAR WOODWARD: In 1916 Hawks sold to Ferdinand D. Rodenbush a house lot in the northeast corner of the tract, west side of School Street, where Rodenbush built a house; 1925 to Ralph E. Libby; 1950 to Oscar and Josephine Woodward.



146. ANNA M. CHENEY: In 1940 Hermon O. Woodward sold a house lot on the south side of the new blind street to Harold T. and Anna M. Cheney.

147. ELLIOTT B. WOODWARD: Next west of Cheney, Hermon O. Woodward sold land and building 1950 to Elliott B. and Eleanor C. Woodward.

148. RICHARD PEARCE: In 1788 Gen. Benjamin Bellows sold to Guerdon Huntington, goldsmith, a small piece of land north of the corner of Prospect and Main Streets. He had a house here and a shop.

In 1794 Bellows sold to Joseph Barnard, blacksmith, one and one-half acres surrounding Huntington's property, except 21 rods along Prospect, and north on Main Street to the Woodward lot. There was a dwelling house and shop already there. The next month Barnard sold to Huntington a half acre surrounding his property, and in 1802 a little piece he had reserved out of the northwest corner on the street. The south part of the lot he sold in 1795 to Calvin Ripley, wheelwright. (See Austin Hubbard place.)

In 1802 Guerdon Huntington was living on a lot he had from Caleb Bellows northeast of his other holdings, when he sold to Thomas Drew; 1833 to Charles W. Carey; 1839 to Philip Peck and William Bellows; 1854 to James Stowell (slight exchange of line with David Russell 1863).

In 1891 Anna Wright (sole heir of Louisa Frink who had inherited from Mrs. Stowell) to Abbie E. Chappell; 1892 to Clarabelle Snow (husband James D.); 1893 to Fred Prentiss; 1895 to Charles Parker Jr.; 1898 to Ella M. Weber; 1930 her estate to Charles A. and Mildred R. Moulthrop; 1942 to Charles Carroll White and Edith LeMoyne White; 1956 to Catherine E. McAfee Pearce and Ellen L. McAfee.

149. MRS. ALBERT C. DICKEY ESTATE: In 1854 James and Sarah K. Stowell sold to David Russell the south part of the lot (on the corner). After Russell died George S. Wilder (son-in-law) bought the other shares; heirs and trustees sold 1905 to Grace Lincoln Darling; 1924 to Town Congregational Society; 1925 to Albert C. Dickey.

## PROSPECT STREET, NORTH TO SOUTH

150. AUSTIN I. HUBBARD: In 1794 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold this lot of one and one-half acres, with dwelling house and blacksmith shop standing thereon, to Joseph Barnard, blacksmith. In 1795 he sold to Calvin Ripley, wheelwright, one acre; 1802 to Roger Vose; 1836 to John S. Gallup;



1836 to William Watkins; 1843 to George Carlisle of Cincinnati, Ohio; 1852 to Lydia Maynard (John). The Maynard heirs sold 1907 to Lucia E. Clark of Winchester, Mass.; 1928 to Austin I. Hubbard.

151. CHARLES DAVIS (corner Prospect and School Streets): This was part of the Academy Boarding House property, sold 1837 to William Watkins; 1841 to his mother, Sarah (Mrs. Ruggles Watkins). She died in 1866; heirs sold to Samuel J. Martin of Marlborough. Probably the house was built for Mrs. Watkins. In 1869 Martin sold to Charles C. Davis; 1917 other heirs sold to Arthur P. Davis.

152. HAROLD S. PUTNAM: While William Watkins owned the Davis place, he sold a lot next north, 107 feet along the west side of School Street, to James Reazin (Reason) in 1839; mortgaged to George Allen, who sold in 1848 to Jessenia Kittedge; 1853 to Ann Reazin; 1863 to James Drislane; 1900 to Catherine L. Marvin of Langdon; 1902 to Charles C. Davis; 1917 other heirs to Thomas C. Davis of Newton Highlands, Mass.; 1924 to Mae E. Shackley (Mary E.); 1951 to Harold S. and Avis L. Putnam.

153. HOLMES H. WHITMORE: Col. Caleb Bellows (1767-1822) son of Benjamin Bellows Jr., was married March 6, 1791 to Mary Hartwell (1770-1846) of New Ipswich. (For wedding details see Barnes *Reminiscences* 39-41.) About that time his father built for him the house on Prospect, now owned and occupied by Holmes Whitmore. Here Caleb Bellows passed the rest of his life, and here his twelve children were born. After the Academy was established in 1831, the house was used as a boarding house for pupils from out of town, and it was for years called the "Boarding House."

Caleb Bellows was a farmer, owning (from his father) a good part of the village south of the business section. To farming he added other enterprises such as distilling and the manufacture of saltpetre.

After Caleb Bellows' death his estate on Prospect was sold in 1831 to Thomas Lord and Elisha Parks of Boston; 1833 to Daniel Brooks of Groton, Mass.; immediately to George Huntington, reserving a small piece of land and buildings occupied by the widow Mary Bellows "during her natural life and no longer." A month later Huntington sold to Nathaniel Holland; 1835 to Thomas Bellows, Jacob N. Knapp, Abel Bellows, Josiah Bellows III and Ephraim Holland. (See *AH* 143-4. Academy 1831-54.)

In 1852 they sold to Amos Atkinson of Brookline, Mass. (Anna G.); 1862 to H. W. S. Griswold; 1898 Sarah G. Hale to Helen M. Banning;



1930 heirs to Carrie D. Moore (Carroll A.); 1945 her estate to Humphrey B. and Evelyn T. Neill; 1946 to Holmes H. and Marjorie A. Whitmore.

154. JOHN A. HUBBARD: In 1949 the Neills sold a strip from the southeast side of what is now the Whitmore Estate to Frank B. and Marjorie W. Estes of Rockingham, Vt.; they built the house, later moved to Keene, where he was manager of WKNE radio station. The Estes sold in 1955 to John A. Hubbard.

155. EDWARD A. JOHNSON: In 1952 the Harrises sold a lot in the northwest corner of #156 on Prospect Street to Edward A. and Doris E. Johnson, who built the house.

156. ROBERT E. HARRINGTON: In 1836 Thomas Bellows, Jacob N. Knapp, Abel Bellows, Josiah Bellows 3rd, and Ephraim Holland sold to Thomas Wilder (Polly H.), painter, three acres next southeast of where John Hubbard now resides; 1849 to James Hooper Jr. (Mary L.), who owned considerable farm land here, back from the road; 1854 to Jonas Tufts of Charlestown; 1876 to William March; 1883 March, then of Keene, to Harriet A. Porter; 1903 to Edgar V. and Alice M. Smith (brother and sister), she a dealer in antiques; 1925 heirs of Alice M. Smith to Euphame S. Mallison of Dobbs Ferry, N. Y.; 1926 widow (of Charlottesville, Va.) to Minnie L. and Leslie (Let) Converse of Westminster, Vt.; 1931 to George S. and Anne S. Harris. In 1940, the Harrises sold the southeast corner of the lot on Prospect to Robert E. Harrington. There had been a one and one-half story brick house with pillars here, which burned about 1925 while the Smiths owned it. The Harrington house was built on the cellarhole.

157. WARREN L. RAND: In 1961 the Harris Estate sold land here to Warren L. and Joyce M. Rand, who have built a house.

158. EDITH HARRIS: In 1836 Thomas Bellows, Jacob N. Knapp, Abel Bellows, Josiah Bellows 3rd and Ephraim Holland sold, from the old Caleb Bellows property, the place where Edith Harris now resides to Abigail (Nabby) Jennison, daughter of Jonathan; 1868 to Frederick Kilburn, carpenter; 1880 to Aurora Kenrick (Mrs. Charles J.); her heirs (Mary K. Barnes and Charles T. Kenrick of Walpole, Edward S. Kenrick of Farley, Mass.); 1908 to Jennie A. (Mrs. Charles S.) Hawks; 1911 to Grace W. Bellows (Mrs. Clifford); 1921 to Edith Harris.

159. HOMER G. WALLACE: Mary Bellows (widow of Caleb) lived 24 years after her husband died. She had this place. Her heirs sold 1847 to Foskit



Farr; 1849 to Eli Snow (Dorcas) of Boston; 1857 to James Bunting; 1903 Mahala Bunting to George O. Taggard; 1910 to Ola Hubbard; 1921 to Sumner Watkins. In 1929, he made over the deed to Homer Wallace, who took care of him through his declining years. Mrs. Wallace, who is now postmaster, was Gertrude Ramsay. This is a very old house.

160. MERLE JEFFREY: In 1941 the Wallaces sold a house lot southeast of their house to Dorothy B. Kendall, daughter of Mrs. John Good. Mr. Good built the house for Dr. and Mrs. Kendall. The doctor died very suddenly after moving to Jaffrey; in 1950, Mrs. Kendall sold to the Goods, and in 1953 they sold to Merle and Elaine G. Jeffrey.

161. DONALD H. SAWYER: In 1961 Norbert A. Hudson sold land here to Donald H. and Betty L. Sawyer, who built the house.

162. NORBERT A. HUDSON: In 1796 Caleb Bellows sold the two acres where the buildings are to Dr. Stephen Johnson; 1801 to Oliver Sparhawk, who in 1812 bought more land from Caleb Bellows. Sparhawk was a thrifty business man during his comparatively short life, and much respected. He built the house here and had a large family of children. His wife died in 1818, he in 1824. Place sold to Nehemiah Giles in 1829; 1847 to Anson Dale; 1848 to Jehial Comstock of Acworth; 1854 Alanson and Jehial Comstock to Louisa Hayward (see *Bellows Genealogy*, pp. 189, 391); 1870 to Harrison G. Barnes of Jamaica, Vt.; 1907 the other heirs to Charles H. Barnes; hay barn burned July 13, 1913; in 1920 to John L. Kerr of Putney, Vt.; 1921 to Nial Bemis of Athens, Vt.; 1924 the bank to Arthur H. Chickering Jr. of Westmoreland; 1925 to Henry H. Reed; 1926 to John H. O'Brien; 1928 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1928 to John Walker of Langdon; 1942 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1942 to Charles H. Cleveland; 1945 to William H. Proctor of Charlestown, for his daughter and her husband, Vesta and Fred Nystrom; 1952 to Harold A. and Elizabeth C. Newton; 1960 to present owners.

163. LOUBERT F. BROOKS: This was originally a part of the Barnes farm. The house stood down the hill from Mr. Cutter's and was moved to this site November 1909 by Charles Barnes. In 1924 Arthur H. Chickering of Westmoreland sold to Lydia M. Beach; 1927 to Ellen Seery of Allston, Mass. Her sister, Lizzie Leary, worked for Dorothy Whitney doing housework and farm work, and lived here until she died. Ellen Seery (husband Joseph) sold in 1954 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr. and Irene A. Chickering of Westminster, Vt.; 1957 to Murray Cobleigh; 1959 to Loubert F. and Alice K. Brooks.



164. COL. CALEB BELLOWS' FARM OCCUPIED BY NATHANIEL HOLLAND 1834, CELLARHOLE: On the old road north from the Hill Meeting House (now Hooper School) well up toward North Road, on the east side of the road, there is an old cellarhole, up on the bank. This was part of Caleb Bellows' land from his father. In 1834 there was listed Col. Caleb Bellows' farm occupied by Nathaniel Holland (in School District #1). On December 23, 1834, Nathaniel Holland sold this place to Anson Lawrence. It is not shown on the 1858 map so it must have been gone before that time. The price in 1834 was \$353.25; the land included 18 acres. Those are all the clues on that cellarhole. Before then, it was concealed in Caleb Bellows' large holdings, and after then, it was only a part of Anson Lawrence's estate. It is now a part of the Turner place on North Road.

The rest of the places on the northeast side of Prospect were out of land Col. Benjamin Bellows left to his daughter Abigail. William Burrows' north line was the line between the Benjamin Bellows Jr. property and the Abigail Bellows Hunt Richardson property.

#### FROM WESTMINSTER STREET TO MIDDLE STREET

There was at one time a lane along the south side of the Crafts lot from the present junction of Westminster and Main Streets at a 12° angle south. When the present street was laid in 1807, there was left a wedge of Crafts land between the lane and the street. This the Crafts (John and Esther) sold in 1814 to the partnership of Samuel Dana and Thomas Bellows 2nd, who in 1812 had bought from Josiah Bellows 2nd the next lot to the south. The west part of the lot became the Walpole Inn lot. Samuel Dana lived on this lot when the partnership ran into financial difficulties in 1820. The lot was taken over by the Cheshire Bank.

165. WALPOLE INN: The wider part of the lot to the west Abel Bellows had sold in 1836 to Anson Dale; 1839 to George Allen; 1841 to his father-in-law William Mitchell. His son, James L. Mitchell, who was a successful hotel man in New York, built here a new house for his father and it continued to be the home of members of the family until 1897 when heirs sold to Amy W. Jennings; 1899 to Bessie E. Worthen; 1900 to Clark Chase; 1902 to Copley Amory. He completely remodelled the place, developing it into the Walpole Inn. In 1908 Amory sold to Georgetta A. Mills; 1914 to Josiah F. and Violet G. Wilson; 1932 to Reginald F. and Marion Cahalane; 1934 to the Wilsons again; 1937 to John H. Boyce; 1940 to Avery M. Stevens; 1942 to Wilsons to Bank; 1946 to Mason E. and



Emma G. Harker; 1947 to Mary Louise Weber (she married Wing); 1951 to Dania, Inc.; 1959 to James J. Neville. The building was razed in 1962 after being taken by Savings Bank of Walpole.

166. NEW ENGLAND TEL. & TEL. CO.: On the corner of Westminster Street and Washington Square a lot was sold to the Telephone Company in 1946 and a new Dial Telephone Building was built.

167. SAVINGS BANK OF WALPOLE: The east part of the lot (not the extreme narrow part) Abel Bellows sold in 1839 to James Moody. Aaron Howland took over Abel Bellows' mortgage on the place and in 1843 sold to Thomas Murphy; 1847 to David W. Watkins. It came into Frederick Vose's hands, possibly by foreclosure of a mortgage. He built a brick office where he carried on his law practice for many years; 1872 his estate to Judge Josiah G. Bellows; 1892 to the Savings Bank of Walpole, "reserving to grantor right to lease of grantee the rear room of said building for an office so long as he shall desire personally to occupy same for \$75 a year which includes heat and light."

In 1773 Col. Benjamin Bellows had given to his son Benjamin a 330-acre tract embracing a good part of what became the village of Walpole. On the west side of Main Street, his north line was along the south line of the Crafts lot, from the junction of Westminster and Main Streets westerly at an angle of 12° south of Westminster Street. Here he sold three lots embracing the area from Westminster Street south to what is now Middle Street (laid in 1801), and from Main Street to County Road, west side of present Washington Square: (1) 1792 to Dr. George Sparhawk, first lot south of Crafts (McKenven); (2) 1791 to Gen. Amasa Allen, next south (Tatem); (3) 1792 to David Stevens, tanner, next south (Porter-Hastings).

Each lot was nine rods 19 links wide on Main Street, eight rods nine links on the west end. The north line of the Sparhawk lot was 37 rods 15 links, the south line of the Stevens lot 33 rods. (The length of the street as laid from the southeast corner of the Crafts lot to the Common in 1807 was 36 rods.) At the end of each lot "reserving eight rods wide across west end of said land for use of Common when there shall be a road opened at west and adjoining said Common and not before."

*McKenven lot (AH 355)* "Dr. George Sparhawk was born in 1757, graduated at Harvard in the class of 1777, studied medicine, and came to this town between 1780 and 1785, where he commenced the practice of his profession." He built the house on this lot and kept bachelor's hall, not marrying until 1802 Polly, daughter of Aaron Allen. In 1796 he



sold this place to Joseph Barnard and probably removed to Maple Grove Farm which he had purchased in 1785.

Barnard was a blacksmith and had owned a house and shop at the foot of Prospect (Austin Hubbard's) 1794-5. His wife was Tirzah. He sold in 1803 to Josiah Bellows 2nd (son of John), merchant.

The northeast corner of the lot Bellows sold in 1807 to Amasa Allen, Isaac Redington and David Stone. In 1792, when Sparhawk bought the lot, there had been at the northeast corner on Main Street Caleb Johnson's store. This was probably the "Red Store" Johnson bought from Amasa Allen in 1794. He did not buy the land. The following indenture was recorded between Benjamin Bellows and Amasa Allen and Jabez Weld, no date:

"let a certain spott of land whereon said Allen and Weld's store now stand bounded northerly on land of John Craft; easterly on County Road . . ., southerly and westerly on land of Benjamin Bellows, for and during term said store shall stand. . . ."

Weld was a tinsmith. In 1796 this was listed as a hatter's shop occupied by Joshua Howe.

168. GUY BEMIS: In June 1807 when the deed was recorded, it included where "brick store is now building" on Main Street, next west the Hatter's Shop, then the "White Store". These last two were on the south side of the lane to the Common, facing north.

In the new brick building there were three stores. The south store Isaac Redington had, sometimes alone, sometimes in company; eventually it belonged to Josiah Bellows 3rd. In 1825 Bellows & Redington advertised "Scotch, Tartan and Caroline Plaids, Woollen Cloths, Bombazetts, Blue, Claret and Mixed Pelisse Cloths, Rose Blankets, Black & Drab Ostrich Plumes, Velvets, Plushes, etc., also a general assortment of West Indies Goods and Groceries, Hardware & Cutlery, Crockery and Glass Ware, Paints, Oils, and Dye Stuffs. Cash and the highest market price paid for shipping furs." In 1826 they advertised "400 lb. live geese feathers just received and for sale by Bellows & Redington. Wanted 2000 lbs. Flax, 100 bu. White Beans."

David Stone ran the middle store. He had formerly been in partnership with his brother-in-law, Roswell Bellows, son of Col. John, but that partnership was dissolved June 10, 1801. He formed a partnership with Josiah Bellows 3rd, continuing for nearly a quarter century. They had a branch house in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Philip Peck came to Walpole in 1830 at the age of 18 and entered the store of Col. David Buffum as a clerk. After some years he formed a



partnership with William Bellows, known as Bellows & Peck. In 1836 they bought out the business of Josiah Bellows 3rd in the middle store and continued until the firm was unfortunate in business and they dissolved the partnership about 1841. Peck continued the business, but was burned out in 1849. He retired from active business, not being in robust health, and devoted himself to reading and the usual employments of a country life.

Amasa Allen had the north store. His nephew, Oliver Allen, was postmaster here around 1814. In 1816 William Buffum came to Walpole from Westmoreland and established himself in mercantile business. In 1820 he married Mary Ann D. Gordon, stepdaughter of Amasa Allen. Apparently the Buffums inherited a half interest in this store, and in 1834 they bought the other interest from her brother, George D. Gordon. William Buffum died in 1841, but it appears that his heirs did not sell their interest until 1854, after the first fire, when they sold to John Cole, who had built the new store.

In 1895 Thomas Bellows Peck wrote thus of his memories of 50 years earlier.

“I can barely remember the ‘brick block’ so-called which stood on the site of what is now known as ‘Davis’s Block’. It was a long building three stories in height and at the time it was burnt in 1849 was used for three stores. Judge Vose’s law office was in the second story over the south store. I distinctly remember the night when it was burned, but can recall little about the building except seeing heavy teams just arrived from Boston with loads of merchandise standing in front of it waiting to unload. This was before the completion of the Cheshire railroad, when all goods were brought from the city on wagons drawn by four or more horses. I recall, too, that the room over the middle store was at one time occupied for a brief period by a travelling artist who took daguerreotypes, then a comparatively new invention. He must have been one of the first who came to town. He took excellent pictures which have remained clear and distinct to the present time.”

In 1807 the Brick Store owners had sold what was the old Hatter’s Shop to Alexander Thomas (he had been Postmaster 1799-1801); 1825 his heirs to Abel Bellows, Ezra Kilburn having occupied the shop in 1824.

What had been known as the “White Store”, Betsey and Samuel Gilchrist (heirs of Amasa Allen) sold in 1824 to John Kimball; 1830 to Abel Bellows; 1840 to James Stowell.

According to *AH* 107

“In September 1849 the old brick store . . . was burned. . . . The building was occupied at the time by Philip Peck, dry goods & groceries; Tudor and Rockwood Co.; and W. G. Wyman, variety store. There were three other buildings just west of the store, one of which was a dwelling, the others mechanics’ shops, which were burned at the same time. The cause of the fire was unknown.”



After the fire, John Cole bought up all the property.

“Another store substantially like the one now occupied by E. K. Seabury (1880) and another wooden store just north, facing the east (as had the old block), and also a dwelling and grocery store on the burnt district west, were immediately rebuilt. In 1855 a fire broke out in the new dwelling just west of the stores above mentioned, and extended to the stores, and the former district was burned over the second time. In the course of two years or so buildings were put upon the burnt district as they stand at the present time (1880). The last conflagration was caused by an overheated stove funnel, improperly adjusted through a partition. The house was occupied at the time of the fire by Thomas C. Ball and family. The losses were partially covered by insurance.”

After the second fire, Cole seems to have sold to Edwin R. Wells. In 1895 Peck wrote:

“The building which was erected on the site of the brick block was soon destroyed by fire, and was succeeded by the present brick building with its wooden wings. During my school days the brick store in the center was occupied by Wells & Aldrich, and afterwards by B. F. Aldrich, the south wing by the Misses Miller, and the north wing by Edward Crosby. Mr. Edwin R. Wells, the partner of Mr. Aldrich, was a jovial man whose hearty laugh could be heard from one end of the village to the other. I have many recollections connected with Mr. Crosby’s apothecary shop, which was a favorite resort and the center of news. Mr. Crosby was son of Rev. Dr. Crosby of Charlestown and had much of his father’s humor and a fund of jokes and anecdotes. He was a very industrious man and turned every moment to account. He was at various times treasurer of the Savings Bank, postmaster and selectman, and wrote the warrants and checklists for town meeting in a very neat hand. In odd moments he manufactured cough lozenges which he put up in cylindrical boxes and labelled ‘Ward’s Lozenges’. Long afterwards I inquired of him who Ward was, for whom the lozenges were named, and he replied that he didn’t know unless his name was Ed-ward.

“The postoffice was in the corner at the right of the entrance, and being partitioned off from the rest of the store had somewhat the appearance of a cage. One day Mr. Jacob Moore, a humorous individual then staying in town, came into the store, and poking his cane between the slats asked what sort of a wild animal was kept there. I must not omit to mention Mr. Fred Benson, Mr. Crosby’s clerk. He went into Mr. Crosby’s store from high school about the time that the telegraph was introduced into town. The office was located in the store and Fred showed great aptitude for the business and soon became a skilled operator. The readiness by which he could read messages by the sound was a source of wonder to the boys. He was a slender young man but full of pluck. One evening when Mr. Crosby was out a large boy who was something of a rowdy made a disturbance in the store, and, though Fred was much the smaller of the two, he ‘went for him’ with a vigor that soon took the mischief out of him.”

In 1858 J. W. Hayward had the drug store on the corner.

In 1883 Charles C. Davis bought the store on the corner from the



heirs of Edwin R. Wells. The Souvenir Edition of the *Bellows Falls Times* in 1899 said of him in part:

"He is the senior merchant of Walpole, and for more than thirty years has been successfully engaged in the drug business here. . . . He came to Walpole in 1866 and bought a half interest in the drug store with Dr. S. J. Martin, now of Racine, Wisconsin. The high school of Walpole was then without a teacher and Mr. Davis taught the school during 1866-7. He soon after bought Dr. Martin's interest in the drug store and has since conducted the leading drug business between Keene and Bellows Falls. . . . Mr. Davis talks so entertainingly that the customer wants to buy the whole stock. His store contains the telephone exchange."

Here he also printed the town reports. He was followed by his son Arthur P. who died 1937.

The Davis heirs sold 1946 to the present owners Guy and Marion Bemis. Lester C. Chickering and Alfred M. Martin have the drug store on the north side (preceded by Lyndon I. Wilson; B. Ralph Brainard); the Bemises the IGA store in the center; Lila Pierce the south store, gifts, etc.

In Wells' Block early 1870's:

E. K. Seabury: Dry Goods, Groceries, Produce, General Merchandise; 1884 sold to Horace A. Perry.

Charles C. Davis, Registered Pharmacist; Books, Stationery, Periodicals, Jewelry, Fancy Goods, Pictures, Frames, Job Printing, added a press (printed town reports).

Richard Knapp: Custom Tailoring, Barber Shop connected.

Miss J. L. Fuller: Milliner.

1883 J. L. Howard bought goodwill and stock in trade of Knapp, taught penmanship and was a barber.

169. SAVINGS BANK OF WALPOLE, LAND: In 1856 Wells sold to Benjamin F. Aldrich for \$300 the lot adjacent to the bank, and probably built a house and lived here. In 1880 he sold to Abbie M. Lebourveau, he having removed to Springfield, Vt.; 1895 to Benjamin E. Webster; in 1937 Daniel E. Webster sold to the bank. The house was cut in two in 1961 and moved west to the new Rt. #12 bypass (some difficulty was experienced crossing Elm Street and going down Depot Hill) and was brought to rest in Maplewood Park. It is now the home of Etienne Chaloux.

170. JACOB KOSON JR.: The rest of the Sparhawk lot, after some confusion over a mortgage to George Sparhawk, and selling to Dana & Bellows who got into financial difficulties, went in 1821 to Abel Bellows, then to his son, A. Herbert Bellows. Abel Bellows, who had become wealthy in Montreal, retired here, a semi-invalid. His house barely





*Walpole Common*

escaped when the brick store burned. (See Wells letter. Decade 1840-1850)

In 1879 Horace A. Perry bought; 1919 to Louise C. Mousley of Alstead; 1929 to Carrie L. Knowlton; 1940 to Oliver J. Hubbard; 1944 to Raoul J. and Emma M. McKenven; 1962 to present owner.

Dana Knowlton had electrical appliance store here; until 1962 occupied by power company office.

171. STEPHEN B. WILLIAMS: The west end of the lot, five rods wide from the south line, nine rods deep, Abel Bellows sold in 1839 to John Williams of Cambridgeport, Mass., for \$300. It may be assumed that he built the house. He must have died before 1850, because at that time Eliza Williams, Sophia Williams and Margaret Harrington were living here together. Eliza left the property to Margaret who in 1856 married Dr. George A. Blake; 1893 to Helen A. Wotkyns; 1912 to Clifford L. Sturtevant; 1914 to Helen P. Davis; 1920 her husband to Emma E. Lord of Portland, Maine; 1921 to Mrs. Lelia L. Sawyer; 1931 to Isabelle D. White of New York; 1955 to present owners.

172. DR. WILLIAM H. TATEM:

"Gen. Amasa Allen came to Walpole from Pomfret, Conn., soon after the evacuation of Boston by the British in 1776. . . . When he came to town, he commenced



business as a merchant in a store that stood a little west of E. K. Seabury's, but he subsequently built the Britton store, and was a merchant during his active life. He had partners in business from time to time, but was himself the master spirit. Although he came into town poor, he left at the time of his death 1821 at the age of 70, \$75,000. He was twice married, but had no children. His first wife died in 1811, and in 1812 he married the widow Sarah S. Dixon Gordon, mother of Mrs. William Buffum (Mary Ann Dixon)". (*AH* 186)

In 1791 he bought the second lot south of Westminster Street and built the house which still stands, and which was his home for the rest of his life.

"He was a man of sanguine temperament, florid complexion, with light blue eyes, and was rather stout than otherwise. He was very popular with his townsmen, although decided in his opinion, public spirited, yet grasping; jovial at times, at other times the opposite; but on the whole a good citizen."

He gave the church organ to the town, later used by the Unitarians, and he was present when the old church bell was cast, dropping in the silver that was a portion of it. In 1819 he gave to Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls, the first church bell used in that village, the only one in town until 1855.

Mrs. Emily Barnes wrote thus of him:

"Gen. Allen must have left an indelible impression upon everyone living within the sound of his voice. He was the most active and bustling man I ever knew. In summer when we slept with our windows open, at my uncle's (Abel Bellows' house next north) we were usually awakened as early as half-past four by the thunder tones in which the old General would be giving orders to the servants in the house as also to the outdoor men. He had a great farming business to see to, mostly on farms at quite a distance down the river, and breakfast for all hands must be ready at an early hour, and his own carriage ready at a particular moment; and when we heard the wheels roll out of his dooryard, with a sigh or relief we would finish our morning nap."

In 1833 Abigail Richardson bought the property from the various Allen heirs. She was a daughter of Col. Benjamin Bellows, born 1759, died 1844. She married first, in 1779, Col. Seth Hunt of Northampton, Mass., who died the same year. They had one child, Seth, who died in 1846. She married next, in 1782, Capt. Josiah Richardson of Keene. They had one child, but when he was two months old, his mother brought him from Keene in her arms and as they were descending Prospect Hill her horse stumbled, throwing her and the child. He was instantly killed.

Mrs. Richardson remained in Keene some years after her husband died in 1820, then returned to her native Walpole.



Aunt Richardson, as she was called, was of medium height, had delicate features, and in her young days was quite attractive. She was especially noted for her wit and love of fun. Dr. Morse said that in her childhood "it took two to keep Nabby Bellows quiet in meeting time". In later years, thinking that her husband was too much inclined to meddle in her housekeeping, "she threatened that when he died she would bury him in the ash-hole with his head sticking out so that he might see what was going on in the kitchen". She was particularly fond of young people.

"Although she was more liberal in her religious views than her younger sister Mary, she was a regular attendant at the Orthodox Church, except when kept at home by her infirmities. She made it her rule, if she could not go to church on Sunday, not to go out during the week."

In 1845 Martha Eleanor Bellows Peck bought the property; her son Thomas Bellows Peck had it after her, and left it to Annie Buffum Williams, who sold in 1919 to Louis Hazen, physician, of Rockingham, Vt.; 1939 his estate to Margaret R. Campbell; 1946 to Frances K. Dette of Hartford, Conn.; 1947 to Dr. William H. Tatem.

173. CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH LOT: When the new church building was erected in 1833, Abigail Richardson gave the west end of her home lot to the church on condition that she should always have a good pew in the church free of rent and that a right of way should be reserved from her garden through the church lot. This condition is not in the deed.

174. RENA PORTER HASTINGS: In 1792 Gen. Benjamin Bellows sold to David Stevens, tanner, a strip from Main Street to the County Road, next south of Gen. Amasa Allen's property. It is probable that he built a house. In 1795, having removed to Rutland, he sold the east 17 rods to Thomas and Isaac Reddington; 1798 to David Stone, trader; 1800 to Levi Pierce, merchant, of Boston, wife Mary Elizabeth; 1802 to Joseph Bellows Jr., trader; 1812 to William Cochran of Boston. Cochran had died by 1839, and his wife Mary and daughters Martha and Mary Ann sold and removed to Northampton, Mass. There was another daughter Agnes Gorden who had married Stephen Higginson, and there was an Elizabeth Cochran who seemed to have some rights in the place. Philip Peck bought, moved the house back on the lot and built a new house, the present one.

In 1846 Henry Foster bought the property, then it went to his son Levi H.; in 1859 to his wife Fannie M.; 1862 to Samuel Beck (Caroline A.); they removed to Concord and sold to Judge Henry Adams Bellows of



Concord, who had been born here, son of Joseph; 1867 to Charles E. Fuller, who removed to Terre Haute, Indiana; 1870 to Helen Louisa K. and Rev. David A. Russell; 1870 to Helen M. and Robert E. Green of Westmoreland; 1875 to Dr. Winslow B. Porter; now Mrs. Rena Porter Hastings.

Capt. John Cole is said to have lived here. He had a general store, Cole & Wyman, where Chickering Drug is now. He belonged to a group interested in assisting runaway slaves to Canada. He was a retired sea captain, who, with his wife, was once shipwrecked. Each thought the other lost until they met on a street in New York.

175. MRS. WALLACE GRAVES: In 1861 the Fosters sold to Sophia Titus (Mrs. Asa) a strip four rods wide off the west end of their house lot, including the large wood-colored house which had been moved back from the front of the lot. Mrs. Titus was a daughter of Jeduthan Russell Jr. of Saxtons River. There were two Titus children, Charles H., who served during the War of the Rebellion as hospital steward on a Union gunboat, then as clerk in a large auction house on Tremont Street, Boston, and later as hotel clerk at Decatur, Michigan; and Jane M.

Asa Titus around 1845 was a dancing master and fiddler. Mrs. Titus functioned at all births of note in town and was called "Aunt Titus".

In 1895 Mrs. Titus' heirs (sisters, nieces and nephews) sold to Thomas B. Peck; 1915 his heirs to Wallace E. Graves; Mrs. Graves still owns the property.

176. CONGREGATIONAL PARSONAGE: Prior to 1795 (deed recorded 1798) David Stevens bargained to Nicanor Townsley the west 16 rods of the lot, out of which the west eight rods was for a Common. Townsley was a cabinet-maker here, and a study of the deeds indicates that he built the house. In 1810 he sold land and buildings to Oliver Allen who lived here; 1814 to Amasa Allen; 1827 the heirs to Submit Dana, probably widow of Rev. Josiah Dana, who was the father of Sarah Sumner Dana, who married Thomas Bellows 2nd in 1812. Thomas had been a partner of Samuel Dana from 1814 to 1820, when their business failed. In 1827 Thomas died, leaving his wife with a small daughter, Sarah Isabella. They lived here, the daughter growing up and marrying in 1844 George W. Grant, who came here to live.

Grant had worked in Boston, but when disaster struck, he removed to Walpole in 1842. He enlarged and improved his mother-in-law's house, being handy with tools. He resided in Walpole for about 20 years, employing his time in carrying on ten acres which he owned near the village,



and in other occupations of life in the country. While not lacking in business qualifications, his predominant traits of character were his wit and sense of humor. His love of fun frequently took the form of raillery or of practical jokes. It was sometimes difficult to tell whether he was in jest or in earnest. A ready writer, he had quite a facility for composing humorous poetry. His wife had a similar literary ability and mental brightness, but, not having an equal sense of humor, was at times apt to take his jokes too seriously. An evening at their house, when both were in a favorable mood, was stimulating to the mind and called out whatever wit the visitor chanced to possess.

About 1862 he went to New York to work as a fur dealer, leaving the family in Walpole where he maintained his legal residence and spent his summers.

Mrs. Bellows, who was an invalid for the last 40 years of her life, was lovingly cared for by Mrs. Grant. Mrs. Grant died in 1866, her mother in 1867, and George W. Grant in New York in 1881. The children, Helen and Herbert, living near Boston, sold the old place, which had become overgrown and neglected, to Elijah Kilburn of Fall River in 1883. He gave it to the Congregational Church for a parsonage.

177. MRS. WALLACE GRAVES: In 1836 Mrs. Dana had sold to Miss Lucy Ormsby a strip two rods wide off the east end of her lot. Aldrich wrote that she was remembered

“as the good-natured maiden lady who taught many of those now living (1880) their ABC’s and care for their little wants.” (*AH* 343)

T. B. Peck remembered her “as a stout woman getting old, and that I stood a good deal in fear of her. She taught me my letters and how to sew patchwork in the same way as she had taught successive generations in Walpole. She had previously lived where the Unitarian Church now stands in the house in which her father Stephen Ormsby followed the calling of village barber. When the church was built, the Society moved the house over to the present location and put it in order for a home for her.”

Other material states that the house was actually north of the church site and was removed when Union Street was put in.

Her sister, Mary Ormsby Whiting (Mrs. Samuel), lived with her, and she left the property to her daughter Mary (Mrs. George Miller); she to her brother Thomas’ daughter Lucia E. Clarke. She sold 1919 to Wallace E. Graves, Mrs. Wallace Graves still owning.

#### MIDDLE STREET, MAIN STREET TO RIVER STREET

178. DONALD H. SPITZLI: The first strip south of Middle Street was apparently sold by Benjamin Bellows Jr. in east and west parcels. The east



portion, 12 rods on Main Street and 20 rods deep, Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold in 1797 to David Carlisle Jr. (Abigail). There were already buildings here. This is the house supposed to have been built about 1785 by Ebenezer Crehore. For lack of records one can only guess the story. There seems no reason why Bellows should have hired such a house built. Did Crehore build it for himself and for some reason never receive title? It was originally built with a roof similar to #172 and #175, later altered to put the gable ends on the east and west and pillars on the side toward Main Street. In the attic the original framing can be traced in oak beams; the alteration made use of chestnut.

David Carlisle Jr. was a printer in business with Isaiah Thomas of Worcester. He mortgaged the place to Thomas who took it in 1799; 1802 to David Stone; 1813 to Francis Gardner, who had previously owned property at the top of Depot Hill; 1817-20 Samuel Dana and Thomas Bellows 2nd, Bellows living here; 1820 to Thomas Bellows and Isaac Redington; 1820 to William Buffum in whose family it remained until 1946. His son William G. and daughter Sarah Ann resided here. After Sarah died, Ogbourne D. and Laura owned the property; 1946 to Donald H. and Beatrice B. Spitzli of Summit, New Jersey.

179. BERL E. TILTON: (First strip south of Middle Street—West Part) The west part of the lot Joseph Weld (Lois), an apprentice to the tinplate business, owned; 1799 to Amasa Allen. 1799 to Josiah Bellows 2nd; 1803 to Calvin Ripley for \$600; 1807 to Joseph Bellows Jr.; 1811 to Roswell Bellows; 1812 to Stephen Johnson; 1813, reserving the new building that Johnson used as a study, to Amasa Tiffany; 1817 Amasa Tiffany sold the southwest corner on River Street to Stephen Tiffany. He was a butcher who resided in the Walton Mead house. (See Decade 1810-1820 and *AH* 94) The rest of the lot Amasa Tiffany mortgaged and apparently lost. In 1822 David Stone to Jacob Brown, taken for mortgage; 1825 David Stone and Josiah Bellows 3rd quit to Abel Bellows; 1836 to Walton Mead, no mention yet of any buildings. Mead apparently built his house on the northeast part of the lot. He married late in life Elizabeth Parker of Charlestown. After she died he married in 1854 Louisa, the widow of Theron Adams. Mead died in 1866 and his widow married Oliver Martin, being his second wife. Martin died in 1888, and she in 1902 in Philadelphia, where Clara Ivanetta Sargent was her heir to this property; 1903 to Ida L. Watkins; 1927 to David A. and Jennie C. Kenyon; 1952 Estate to Carl M. and Gladys H. Barrett; 1955 to Bernice M. and Berl E. Tilton.

180. LESLIE A. NEAL: The west part of the Mead lot, on the corner of



Middle Street and the Common, Mead sold in 1848 to Jacob Brown (wife Mary Ann). He had a wheelwright shop and was a painter.

In 1865 the Brown estate to William Watkins; 1881 his estate to son Warren F. Watkins of Fitchburg; 1892 he and his wife Ellen E., then of Wyandotte County, Kansas, sold to Edwin M. Jennison (Isabel S.); removed to Cambridge, Mass.; 1902 to Ida L. Watkins; 1935 her son Herbert E. Watkins to Wallace E. Graves (Mabel I.); 1942 to Neil C. and Evelyn Noble Stevens; 1952 to present owners.

181. GEORGE W. JEFFREY: The southwest corner of the lot, which Amasa Tiffany had sold to Stephen Tiffany, the latter sold in 1820 to Theodore Phelps; 1821 to Jacob Brown; 1822 to David Stone; 1824 to Eleanor (Nelly) Livingston; 1839 to Isaac F. Bellows; 1854 to Jacob N. Knapp and Francis W. Bellows (first reference to buildings); 1857 for taxes to Lyman Watkins (Abigail); 1859 to William C. Sherman; 1912 his sole heir, Helen R. Bedlington, to George W. Jeffrey.

## SECOND OR MIDDLE STRIP BELOW MIDDLE STREET

182. MRS. MILDRED ROGERS: Benjamin Bellows Jr. had given this property to his son Caleb in 1791, and in 1806 Caleb sold to Thomas Drew a strip ten rods wide from Main Street to River Street, 37 rods; 1834 with barn thereon to Ruggles Watkins and his son Lyman; 1836 the southeast corner on Main Street to William C. Sherman, who apparently built a house; 1846 Thomas and Abel Bellows took for the mortgage; 1851 their heirs to George Huntington; 1852 to Willard Ball; 1868 to Mrs. Mary E. Miller; 1872 to George H. Champlin of Boston; 1873 to Dares A. DeWolf; 1881 to Edward M. Holden; 1920 to Grace I. Van Demark, mother of the present owner, Mrs. Mildred Rogers.

183. LYLE W. JEFFREY: The southwest corner of the lot Ruggles and Lyman Watkins sold 1836 to George Watkins 2nd; 1847 to Levi H. Foster; 1850 to Thomas Seaver; 1853 to Harriet Seaver; 1870 to Julia S. Fuller; 1876 to Jennie S. Fuller; 1926 her heirs to Lewis J. and Ida M. Wright; 1942 to Lyle W. Jeffrey.

184. RALPH POTTER: Lyman Watkins (Abigail F.) had his home on the northwest corner of the lot. He died about 1875, his wife in 1886. His brother Henry J. Watkins bought the shares of the other heirs; sold 1889 to Charles G. Livermore of Alstead; 1892 his heirs to Matthew H. Gorham; 1948 his granddaughter's (Eleanor Hayward, daughter of Olive Gorham Hayward) estate to present owners.



## SOUTH STREET—NORTH SIDE

185. ELLIOTT W. KEACH: After Caleb Bellows died, the land between Drew's strip and South Street, approximately six rods wide, was sold 1823 to Ephraim H. Bellows; 1824 to Parks & Lord of Boston; 1833 to Daniel Brooks; 1833 to George Huntington; 1833 to Nathaniel Holland; 1834 the west end on River Street to Aaron P. Howland. The rest of the lot Holland sold in 1835 to Thomas Bellows, Jacob N. Knapp, Abel Bellows, Josiah Bellows 3rd and Ephraim Holland; 1835 to John Bellows; 1842 his estate to Lyman Watkins; Henry J. Watkins bought the shares of the other heirs of Lyman Watkins, and sold in 1894 this property to Josiah G. Bellows; 1894 to Lora Holden; 1897 the lot on the corner of Main and South Streets to Martha A. Caldwell, who built the house in 1897; 1918 her heirs to Charles H. Barnes; 1940 his son Stuart K. to Leslie B. and Nellie B. Menzies; 1941 to Fordyce T. and Mary H. Flagg; 1950 to Charlotte Sewell; 1953 to Henry T. and Marion Sewell Andrews of Reading, Mass.; 1955 to present owner.

186. ESTATE MAUD BROWN: In 1894 Lora F. Holden sold to Ida L. Watkins the west part of her lot on South Street. In 1899 she sold a house lot here to Sarah E. Blake Glazier (Mrs. Burt), who built the house in the fall of 1899. She was postmaster. She sold in 1920 to Erwin Bowman whose wife was Annette Brown. Her sister Maud Brown inherited the place.

187. ALBERT F. CHICKERING: The strip which Aaron Howland bought from Nathaniel Holland on River Street is now in four house lots. The first on the north Holland sold 1834 to Oliver Pratt, removed to Londonderry, Vt.; 1842 to Ebenezer Morse; 1844 to David O. Gale of Londonderry; 1844 to Anson Dale; 1847 to Nehemiah Giles who built the house and left to Emory Washburn of Cambridge, Mass.; 1871 to Addison Miller; 1906 his estate to Frances Miller; 1910 (she then of North Charlestown) to Warren D. Knowlton; 1930 to George W. and Alice Penniman; 1944 estate of Alice E. to Lyman H. and Sarah G. Guest; 1945 to Robert G. Guest; 1945 to Merle and Elaine Guest Jeffrey; 1953 to John W. and Mary E. Good; 1956 to Jesse D. and Marjorie J. Pickering who exchanged with his brother Edward S. Pickering in 1958; 1961 to present owners.

188. HERBERT E. WATKINS: The next lot south Howland sold 1834 to James Benson, who built the house; 1851 to Betsy Hale; 1876 her estate to Ephraim A. Watkins; now Herbert E. Watkins.

189. CARLTON E. SPARHAWK ESTATE: The next lot south Howland sold in 1853 to Oliver Martin; Ralph Farnsworth, who may have built the



house, was living here in 1853; 1858 to Thomas S. Whiting of Cambridge, Mass.; 1866 to William Barron of Bellows Falls; 1866 to George P. Porter (Eliza C.); 1871 to Edmund A. Marsh; 1875 to Fanny M. Sparhawk; 1910 her heir Thomas C. Sparhawk (Sarah J.) of Winchendon, Mass., to Carlton E. Sparhawk.

190. HELEN BREADNER CARR: The lot on the corner of South and River Streets Oliver Martin sold in 1867 to Jarvis D. Hinds; 1884 his estate to David N. Wright; 1901 his estate to George O. Taggard; 1910 to Allan G. Shaw; 1915 to Warren D. Knowlton; 1923 to John Mattson; 1944 to Clement S. and Irene S. Hill; 1948 to Sarah K. Clark, Washington, D. C.; 1955 to Helen Breadner Carr and Eugene G. Carr of Bellows Falls.

### SOUTH STREET, SOUTH SIDE

191. GEORGE R. HARRIS: Nathaniel Hovey owned here (by abutting deed references, no deeds) 1760 and had a house here 1762 (road record). At least 1776-1782 James Bundy Jr. was here (by abutting deed references and road record). He may have had the same house as Hovey, probably where Harris house now stands. In the southeast corner of the lot, about nine rods south of South Street, he had a blacksmith shop in 1782. In 1790 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to Mason Abby, wheelwright, where James Bundy formerly lived. Abby (Abbey) sold the north part of the lot with buildings thereon to John Carlisle, shoemaker.

He reserved the wheelwright shop, but apparently removed to Amherst, Mass., and in 1794 sold the shop to Calvin Ripley, wheelwright. Ripley married Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Lois Bellows, on February 27, 1800, and they resided in the Maynard house near the foot of Prospect Street.

"In 1807 having become involved in pecuniary difficulties, he sold his shop to his brother-in-law Joseph B. Bellows Jr. and removed to Middlebury, later to Bennington, Vt. Soon after 1815 Mrs. Ripley left her husband in Bennington and returned with her children to Walpole."

Joseph Bellows Jr. sold in 1811 to his brother Thomas Bellows 2nd; 1812 to John Livingston Jr. who had bought in 1803 three-quarters of an acre on South Street next west of the Harris place and erected a house and barn there. He was a blacksmith and gunsmith by occupation and according to *AH* 313 his shop stood a few rods east, probably on land he bought from Thomas Bellows.

"It would appear from statements made by descendants of the Livingston family that the gun-making establishment was of considerable importance. Guerdon Hunt-



ington (uncle of George) was a partner in the gun establishment, and tradition says that from 100 to 150 men were employed in the years from 1793 to 1802. It is also stated that, when the establishment was broken up in Walpole, the tools and machinery were bought by parties in Springfield, Mass., and removed thither, and formed the nucleus of the armory there. *If the foregoing statements are true*, it is certainly remarkable that the history of such an extensive business is not more generally *known*. From what is known of John Livingston he appears to have been a man of great force of character, and one who snapped his finger at the common observances of society, and made laws until himself. He married Sally Little, hired girl of General Amasa Allen."

Aldrich appears somewhat skeptical of the gun-making story, but we take it for what it is worth. It seems logical that it would be booming in 1812, since there was a war at that time.

Livingston died in 1816 and the shop was sold at auction in 1817 to John Maynard, saddler; the same year to John Carlisle, who already owned the lot next north to South Street. According to *AH* 225, Carlisle lived in the house on the corner and probably carried on his business of making shoes in what was the old gun shop.

John Carlisle died in February, 1833, and in April his heirs (Rebecca and Ruel Keith of Newport, N. H., Rebecca (widow) and George (son, wife Sarah), of Cincinnati, Ohio, Fanny and Calvin Graves of Walpole) sold all their holdings in Walpole to Jared Miller. He came to town in 1820 and first established himself in the south part of town, in District #9.

"There he remained eight years, when he removed to the village where he lived and continued in the shoe business till nearly the close of his life. He manufactured sale boots and shoes for the western market, in connection with custom work, the latter of which was faithfully done. No customer ever complained of poor work that came from his shop. He was a man of positive views and strictly honest habits. He died May 29, 1870." (*AH* 334)

In 1854 Jared Miller (Irena) sold the shop property to Jahial Comstock (Malinda) with "the yellow house" thereon, so it would appear that he had ceased the manufacture of shoes then and the old shop had been converted into a dwelling (*AH* corroborates the fact that the shoe shop was converted into this dwelling). In 1856 the Comstocks sold the property to Levi and Frederick Hooper, sons of Salmon. The family owned it until their brother and sister George Hooper and Mrs. Mary E. Weymouth sold in 1909 to Allen G. Shaw. The house had been occupied by various tenants (MacNutts, John Graves' sister, Slades) through the years and had become shabby and dilapidated. The Shaws tore it down.

Shortly before Miller died (1870), he made over the home place to his daughter Harriet and she and her sister Ellen lived here. Louisa May



Alcott was their guest here at one time. Ellen sold in 1909 to Allan G. Shaw; 1924 both pieces to Florence B. Harris; 1959 to her son George R. Harris.

The old shop stood very close to the brook, almost over it. Probably the cutting of the "new" Keene road at this corner did not enhance the value of the location for a dwelling.

The south quarter acre (three rods on the street) was a part of John Bellows' farm; the rest, that of Gen. Benjamin Bellows.

192. GEORGE C. DOUGLAS AND WARD L. ASHMORE: The house of this farm was probably built while John Livingston Jr. owned the lot in the northeast corner of the farm. Livingston had bought in 1803 from the estate of Benjamin Bellows, the widow's third. The widow Sally Livingston resided here and after her death, the heirs, including Daniel and Eliza Emde of Ohio, sold in 1837 to George Watkins, who also bought from the Bellows Estate the rest of the land along South Street.

George Watkins, second son of Alexander Watkins, was a butcher and always lived in town. In 1853 the other heirs sold their shares in this property to George D. Watkins; 1859 he bought from Rev. Dr. Henry and Eliza N. Bellows 28 acres next south; 1868 to John C. Brown, who farmed here and added a story to the house in 1891. He died in 1912 leaving a widow and four children.

In 1940 the Browns sold the property to Albert F. Chickering; 1944 to Arthur Chickering Jr.; 1946 to Bant H. Morgan (excluding a house lot on Rt. 12 which was sold to Hatch); 1947 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr. (excluding a parcel sold to Frank Ude); 1953 to George C. Douglas and Ward L. Ashmore (excluding the five parcels on Rt. 12 sold to Crabtree, Leland, Wilson, Ude and Hatch, and three parcels on River Road to Clifford Chickering).

The north part of the Brown farm was Gen. Benjamin Bellows' land; the south part, Col. John Bellows'.

#### FORD AVENUE (laid 1960)

193-196. In 1959 George C. Douglas and Ward L. Ashmore sold to Evelyn R. Chickering, she a half interest to Robert L. Galloway, what came to be known as Walpole Acres Development; 1960 to Daniel E. Ford of Westminster, Vt. In 1962 he deeded to the town land for the street. There are four new houses on the southeast side of the street #193 to #196, north to south.



196. QUENTIN W. HUNTLEY: In 1962 Ford sold this house, at the south end of the street, to Quentin W. and Frances L. Huntley.

#### RIVER ROAD, EAST SIDE

On the south corner from South Street into River Road there are three new houses out of the old Brown farm:

197. STEWART W. HOLMES: In 1950 Arthur H. Chickering Jr. sold to Clifford S. (Evelyn) Chickering; 1951 to present owners.

198. MARTIN W. MURRAY JR.: The next house south Clifford Chickering sold 1952 to George J. and Helen M. Audet (his sister); 1954 to present owners.

199. DAVID B. STAPLES: In 1952 Arthur H. Chickering Jr. to Leland F. and Dorothy B. Stanley; 1955 to Maurice E. Robbins, who built the house; 1956 to Norman F. and Helen H. Begien. He died, and she sold to present owners.

#### PROSPECT HILL, WEST SIDE

200. MARY REED CUTTER: The beginning of this place is obscure. According to a deed of 1781, this was land "Samuel Fuller bought of John Cooper". According to another deed this John Cooper also "improved" part of the land of the place next south. According to this same deed (1806), Amos Butterfield then had this place, although he does not seem to have owned it at that time. Deeds indicate that he was here 1781-2; Benjamin Bellows sold to Walter McCoy, house joiner, in 1794; 1795 Eliphalet Fox bought from Caleb Bellows; 1807 to Pliny Dickinson.

(In 1778 Amos and Mary Butterfield from Wilton joined the church. There were also Amos and Anna Butterfield from Pomfret.)

Pliny Dickinson (see *AH* 135, 237; *Bellows Genealogy* 242-5) must have lived in Caleb Bellows' family about two years, then bought this place where he lived the rest of his life. He was married to Mary Brown Bellows in 1819. In 1838 Mrs. Dickinson married James Crawford, lawyer, of Brattleboro. They sold in 1841 to Otis Bardwell; two months later to James Hale of Alstead; 1852 to Orlando Blodgett of Stoddard; 1854 Noah (Fanny) of Keene and Orlando (Charlotte L.) Blodgett of Lowell, Mass., to George Bundy (who had resided at Watkins Hill); 1871 other heirs to his daughter Mary J. Watkins (Mrs. Hiram); 1903 heirs to William N. Langley of Boston; 1904 the Savings Bank to Annie E. Hurd (Mrs. Harry), whose husband was a cashier of the bank; 1906 to Frank



W. Stearns of Boston for Edith Clark, his sister-in-law; 1931 to Mrs. Mary Reed Cutter.

Next north of the Pliny Dickinson place on Prospect was a half acre piece which Simon Buell bought from Col. John Bellows in 1806. He built a house and lived here, mortgaged it several times to his neighbor to the south, Eliphalet Fox. In 1819, when Fox's estate was settled, ownership passed to Fox's heirs, although Buell continued to live here, probably until Abel and Timothy Fox sold their shares in 1829 and 1830 to John Carlisle. It is doubtful if the Foxes ever lived here, since Oliver (Mary) and Abel (Mary K.) lived in Fitchburg, and Timothy lived in New Ipswich, N. H. Where Joseph resided is not stated. After John Carlisle bought, John Maynard occupied the place at least 1838-41. In 1843 Carlisle sold to William Watkins; 1844 to Jacob N. Knapp; 1853 to Andrew Roy (from March Hill Road); 1869 to Leonard F. Parker; 1872, Parker, then of Langdon, to Mary Fletcher; 1874 to her daughter Mary J. who married Henry Allen; 1909 to Clarence M. Brooks. It then became a part of the Cutter place and the house was moved up the hill by Harrison Barnes to a site south of his buildings (now #163). He chose to move it on a Sunday, obstructing traffic and annoying keepers of the Sabbath.

201. CLIFFORD A. BELLOWES: In 1857 Jacob N. Knapp, Abel Bellows and Ephraim Holland sold to Nancy M. Perkins; 1867 to Henry N. Bellows; 1883 to Edward Bellows; 1888 to Mary N. Bellows; 1892 heirs to Katherine B. Robeson; 1921 estate to Clifford A. Bellows of Fajardo, Puerto Rico.

202. HOWARD HALLIDAY: In 1801 John Bellows sold to Caleb Bellows  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre here; 1831 estate to Thomas Lord and Elisha Parks of Boston; 1833 to Daniel Brooks of Groton, Mass.; 1833 to George Huntington; 1833 to Nathaniel Holland; 1835 to Thomas Bellows, Jacob N. Knapp, Abel Bellows, Josiah Bellows 3rd and Ephraim Holland; 1837 to Jacob N. Knapp and Abel Bellows; 1869 to Emily R. Barnes of Lowell, Mass., who built the cottage about 1840 (see *Bellows Gen.* 174); 1886 to Sarah B. Clark of Boston, reserving life use; 1899 to George R. Clark of Dorchester, Mass.; 1912 to Mary L. McLeod; 1923 to Alec St. George; 1929 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1934 estate to Edward C. and Rega Pearl Townsend of Bellows Falls; 1948 to Agnes N. Dodd of East Orange, N. J.; 1957 to Agnes N. Dodd Whitmarsh and George B. Whitmarsh; 1962 to present owners.



203. WALTER C. KILBURN JR.: In 1870 Amherst K. Maynard sold the south part of his lot to Hiram Watkins who probably built the house, since it is known that a house was built here sometime between 1858 and 1877, and the price had quadrupled when Watkins sold it; 1874 to George P. Porter (*AH* 345), son of Vine Porter, who improved the property; 1884 to Clarissa Jennings, daughter of Charles Watkins and second wife of Alonzo Jennings; 1919 heirs to Cluffie Mary Gobie, the visiting nurse; 1921 to Bertha M. Linsley; 1927 to Leslie G. and Minnie L. Converse; 1928 to Charles A. Moulthrop; 1929 to Lillian F. Burt; 1943 estate to Charles D. Dalzell; 1956 to present owners.

204. MAUDE MAYNARD SLADE: The point of land between Wentworth Road and Prospect Street was a part of John Bellows' farm, land which he bought from his father in 1776; 1793 sold 145 rods here to Edmund Brewster, gentleman, of Westmoreland. The increase in price when he sold indicates that he built a house; 1807 to John Livingston, blacksmith; 1811 to Isaac Redington, merchant; 1816 to Jonathan (brother of John) Livingston; 1824 to William Simonds; 1834 to Stephen Dean of Westmoreland; 1838 to Hartshorn Wight; 1842 to David R. Fleeman; 1846 to Amherst K. Maynard. The property now belongs to Mrs. Maude Maynard Slade.

#### WENTWORTH ROAD, NORTH END

In 1772 Jonathan Chase of Cornish sold to Benjamin Bellows that part of #3 in the 4th Range which lies west of Wentworth Road through to the river, a strip about 90 rods wide (166 acres). Chase had it from Timothy Dilano who had probably had it from Benjamin Bellows. Bellows then owned the land next south.

In 1776 Benjamin Bellows sold to John Bellows 45 acres in the point between Prospect Street and Wentworth Road, in Lots #2 and #3 in 4th Range; in 1779 he sold him 10 acres from a point north of the Endicott house west to the brook near the River Road, and south to his own land. The early records are obscure as to how John Bellows came by all his holdings in this area.

205. THORNDIKE H. ENDICOTT: About 1770 Col. John Bellows built what is now the Endicott house, with a long row of barns (since removed) which testified to the extent of his flocks and harvests. His holdings extended from the old county road (Prospect) to the river and south to Boggy Meadow, including #2 in the 3rd Range and #4 and #5 in the 4th Range. He had acquired these last two from his brother Theodore,



the other from his father and brother Benjamin. His son Josiah had the land on the east side of Wentworth Road and his son Hubbard the homestead and land on the west side of the road.

Hubbard was not as prosperous a farmer as his father, and after his death in 1835 the farm was sold to David and William Buffum to satisfy his creditors. Dr. George Smith had the place, letting out the farmland, after which his daughters, Matilda J. and Agnes, sold in 1854 to Rev. Dr. Henry W. Bellows, who used it as a summer home for many years. His daughter, Mrs. Thorndike Endicott, now owns the place. On July 4, 1930, Mrs. Endicott's barn burned.

206. THORNDIKE H. ENDICOTT: Rev. Russell N. Bellows built this house in 1896. The house probably stands on the old line between Lots #2 and #3 in the 4th Range.

"Col. John Bellows was of about medium height, but very stout—so much so that in the latter part of his life he was unable to walk up the steep hill leading from the village to his house without discomfort. He kept a horse saddled, and to aid in mounting had a horse-block placed in the yard at the south of the house. . . . Col. John was very particular in regard to his dress . . . wore a dark cutaway coat with wide skirts and bright brass buttons and three similar buttons on the broad cuffs; a long light colored waistcoat with large pockets, and made open to show the frilled shirt front; and small clothes, with stockings coming above the knees and held in place by buckles. The cloth was homespun, Mrs. Bellows being a notable spinner and weaver of linen and wool, but the clothes were probably made in Boston.

"Town and province records show that he was very active in civic affairs. When a task needed doing with promptness and dependability, Col. John was called upon, many times during the unhappy dispute with Great Britain and in the formation of the new state government.

"Rev. Dr. Henry Whitney Bellows was probably the most illustrious of the whole Bellows family. He was ordained January 2, 1839, and started on his long pastorate in New York City. He was a natural orator, his voice sonorous and musical, his gestures natural, his imagination kindling as his subject developed under the heat of his earnest thought and feeling. His social gifts were no less remarkable; though naturally somewhat shy, he had a charm of manner which drew men and women to him. Independence in thought and fearlessness in expression of his opinions were always marked characteristics of Dr. Bellows. His parish in New York grew and several times it was necessary to move farther uptown and build a new church.

"Valuable and important as had been Dr. Bellows' work as a defender, preacher and minister of rational religion in the metropolis, it was in the planning, organization and successful conduct through the war for the preservation of the Union of a voluntary humane society of national scope, the U. S. Sanitary Commission, that he became most widely known, both at home and abroad." For a fuller account of Dr. Bellows, see *Bellows Genealogy* 283-320.

207. AGNES C. BUNKER: "About the time of his father's (Col. John Bel-



lows) death in 1812, Josiah Bellows 2nd built on that part of his father's farm between Wentworth Road and Prospect Hill the large brick house known as the Knapp House. It was designed to be the most substantial and imposing private residence in town, and has remained without material change to the present day, even the original wall paper in the large parlor being preserved." (*Bellows Genealogy*)

Having mortgaged the place to his cousin John Bellows of Boston, and becoming pecuniarily embarrassed, he removed with his family to Lancaster, N. H., 1820 or 1824. John Bellows sold the place about 1824 to Jacob Newman Knapp who had married his sister Louisa. He had been a preacher and a teacher, but a weakness of his eyes led to his retirement to his farm in Walpole where he kept active for a long life. The Knapps had two sons; Francis Bellows, a preacher and teacher, who never married but devoted his time to the care of his parents; and Frederick Newman who served several churches, but spent most of his life teaching. He had four children, Louisa Bellows, Frederick Bradford, Sarah Perkins and Maria Bradford, who finally inherited the old homestead. Maria and Frederick sold their shares to Sarah and Louisa who came here for the summer for many years.

When they sold the place in 1927 to Agnes C. Bunker, they reserved "for and during their joint lives right to occupy rent free premises conveyed from May 7 to June 7 and from October 1 to November 1 each year and right to use wood from premises for fuel purposes and also right to use a convenient storeroom in buildings on said premises similar to storeroom now used by grantors."

## ROUTE 12, SOUTH OF VILLAGE

208. GEORGE H. DOLLOFF: In 1853 William G. Buffum sold from his farm a house lot on the west side of the "new" Keene Road to Joseph Mason. This was a part of the old John Bellows farm. The Mason family came to Walpole about 1787, first settled on the Scovill Farm near the Surry line. They lived on Carpenter Hill until Mason retired to this place and built "Brookside", where he lived until his death in 1874. After the death of her husband, Dauphin W. Buckminster, Mason's daughter Harriet sold this place in 1880 to Emogene A. Geer, daughter of John Crosby. Her husband, William Geer, was a brother of Maria who married A. K. Maynard. The Geers were an early shoemaking family in Charlestown, and Emogene spent her last years there. She sold this place in 1905 to Nathaniel W. Holland. For many years he rented it for the summer season to Mrs. Ellen Hosmer. In 1899 it was enlarged by raising the roof of



the ell. In 1922 Frank Adams of Rockingham foreclosed, sold in 1923 to Charles E. Seward; to his son Alfred C., whose wife Ethel Converse Seward sold the property in 1957 to Samuel J. Chickering; 1957 to present owners.

209. DOROTHY M. HOUGHTON: In 1905 Mrs. Geer sold a house lot from the south side of her lot to Thomas B. Peck, who built the present house; 1909 to Mrs. Lizzie H. Litchfield of Boston; 1914 to Mrs. Georgetta A. Mills of Braintree, Mass.; 1918 to Mrs. Susie D. B. Flint; 1938 heirs to Charles W. and Dorothy M. Houghton. He died in 1961.

The land of the next four house lots along the northwest side of Rt. 12 was sold during the 1940's and 1950's by Arthur H. Chickering, and was all part of the old John Bellows' farm.

210. WILLIAM N. CRABTREE: In 1950 bought the first lot south of the Houghtons and built a house.

211. ROLLAND S. JAMESON: In 1950, the same day the Crabtrees purchased their land, Willard and Iva Leland bought the next place south and subsequently built a house; 1961 Iva Leland, her husband having died, sold it to present owners.

212. LACEA R. WILSON: The next lot south Bant H. Morgan bought in 1946; 1946 to Frank and Harriet Ude of Westminster; 1946 to Harrison Ude; 1947, he then being of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to Blair and Ruth Baldwin; 1949 to George F. Jr., and Jeanette C. Lawrence; 1950 to Frederick I. and Lacea R. Wilson of Bellows Falls, Vt., now Lacea R., since Frederick has died.

213. CHRISTINA B. HATCH TYLER: In 1941 Harold A. and Christina B. Hatch of Rockingham bought the next lot south. Christina B. Hatch Tyler (widow) now owns the place.

214. ANNA M. HALSEY ESTATE: The field out of which the Halsey property is taken belonged to John C. Brown in 1869, a part of the old John Bellows farm (which had belonged to Dr. Smith and then William Buffum). Brown sold in 1869 to Leonard B. Holland; 1875-6 to Henry J. Watkins; to Lucius Slade of Boston, whose daughter, Mrs. Lelia Slade Sawyer, built the house here and sold it in 1912 to Helen P. Davis; her widower Archie I. Davis in 1927 to William S. and Anna M. Halsey, both of whom have since died.

215. RUSSELL HASTINGS:—OLD CLUB HOUSE: This was part of the William Buffum land that Levi Foster bought in 1844. He had a farm here, the



house standing on the west side of the road, probably on the site of the present house. Foster lived here for many years. He sold in 1868 to John Taggard; 1870 to David Russell; 1873 to George H. Holden; 1891 to Hudson Bridge, reserving the barn and pasture for his cows for the season. (*Bellows Falls Times* says the house was taken down about 1884.)

The club house which had stood on the Amory land on the Hubbard Road to Drewsville was taken apart and moved to this site, on Bridge property, and was used for some years by the Country Club. In 1926 Lawrence D. Bridge sold this two acre piece where the house stands to Russell Hastings of Brookline, Mass.

Thomas Nelson Hastings built the club house on the Amory golf links in summer of 1899.

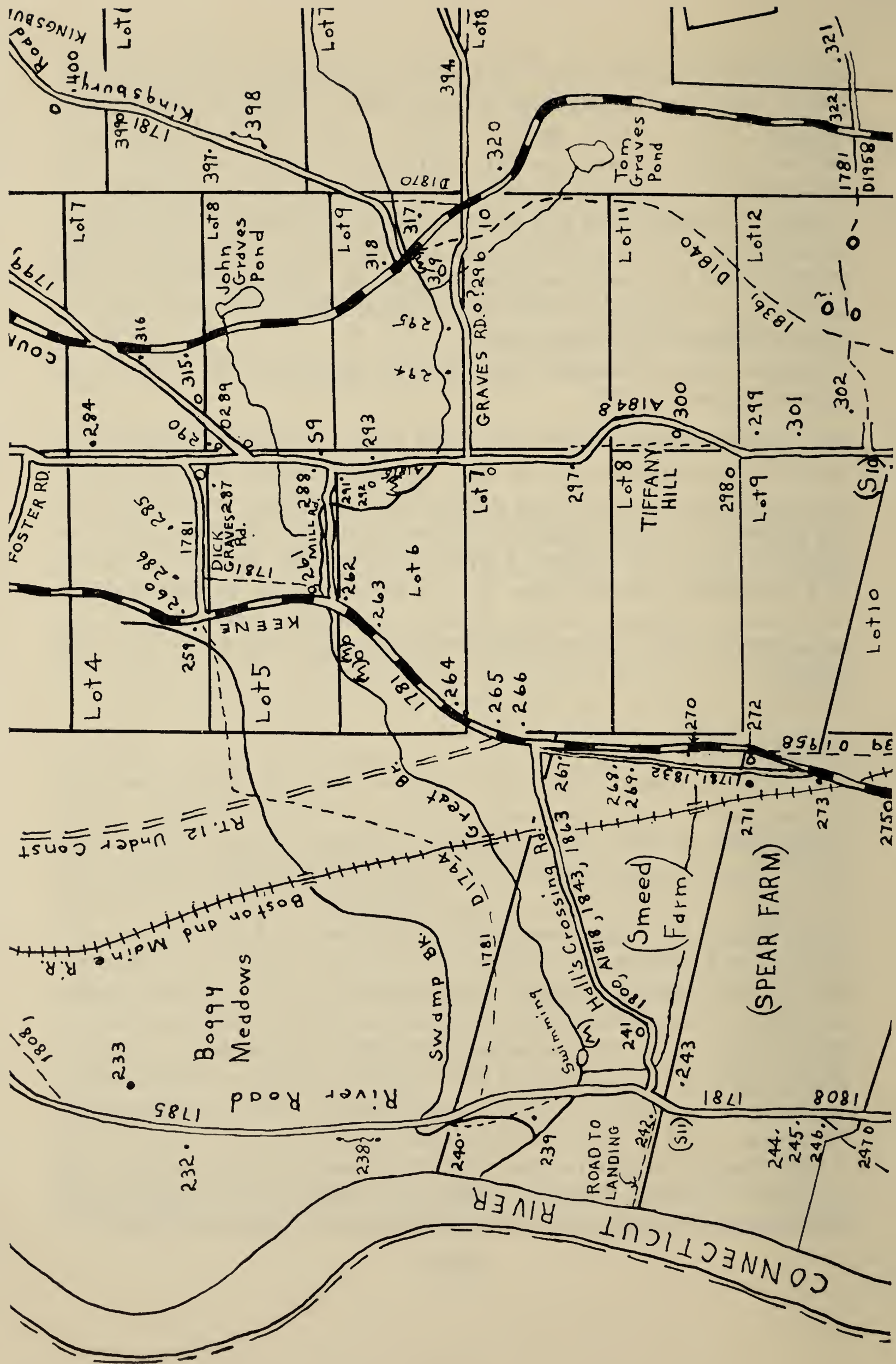
216. GEORGE LEIGHTON BRIDGE JR.: This is part of William Buffum land sold to George Watkins 2nd in 1843 to settle the estate. In 1847 he sold to Levi H. Foster, who owned a farm here; 1868 along with the rest of the property, to John Taggard; 1870 to Dr. Hiram Wotkyns; 1889 his daughter Helen A. to Herbert J. Watkins; 1902 Ida L. Watkins to Louis R. Lincoln who built the house; 1904 to his wife Edith B.; 1914 to Francis B. Allen of New York City. Clifford A. Bellows, who inherited the property from Allen, sold in 1953 to George Leighton Bridge Jr. and wife Betty F.

## RIVER ROAD

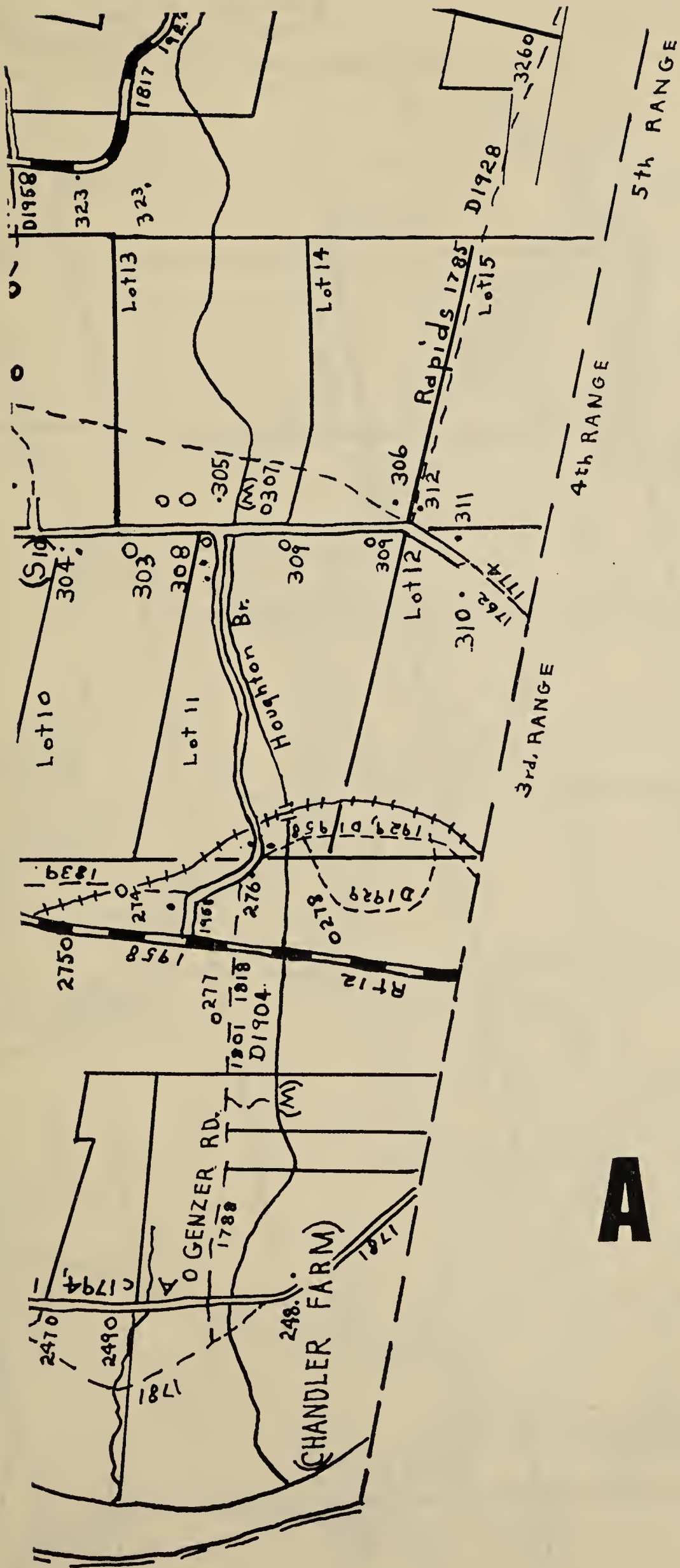
217. JOHN P. O'BRIEN: Where the O'Brien house stands was Benjamin Bellows land on which the house and shop of Samuel Whittle, wheelwright, stood in 1800. Exactly opposite the house and shop was a small barn. These buildings Whittle sold for \$100 to Benjamin Bellows, but continued to live here; 1805 to Joseph Bellows Jr. the three acres with the buildings; 1807, Benjamin Muzzey living here, to Elijah Russell who removed to Rochester, Vt.; 1812 to Aquila Russell who was living here then; 1812 to Samuel Young of Weathersfield, Vt.; 1814 to Daniel Turner; 1833 to Oliver Martin, who had just bought the Holland meadow to the north (42 acres); 1852 to Lucius Slade; 1863 to Eliphalet K. Webster; 1865 to John B. Russell; 1867 to Allen Dunshee; 1903 to Copley Amory, to Fanny Mason; 1934 to Anne S. and George S. Harris of Montclair, New Jersey; 1948 to John P. O'Brien (Helen).

On a Saturday night in May 1941 the barns and sheds burned with stock and machinery. The house caught, but was saved by the good work of the firemen. Considerable damage was done by people with good in-







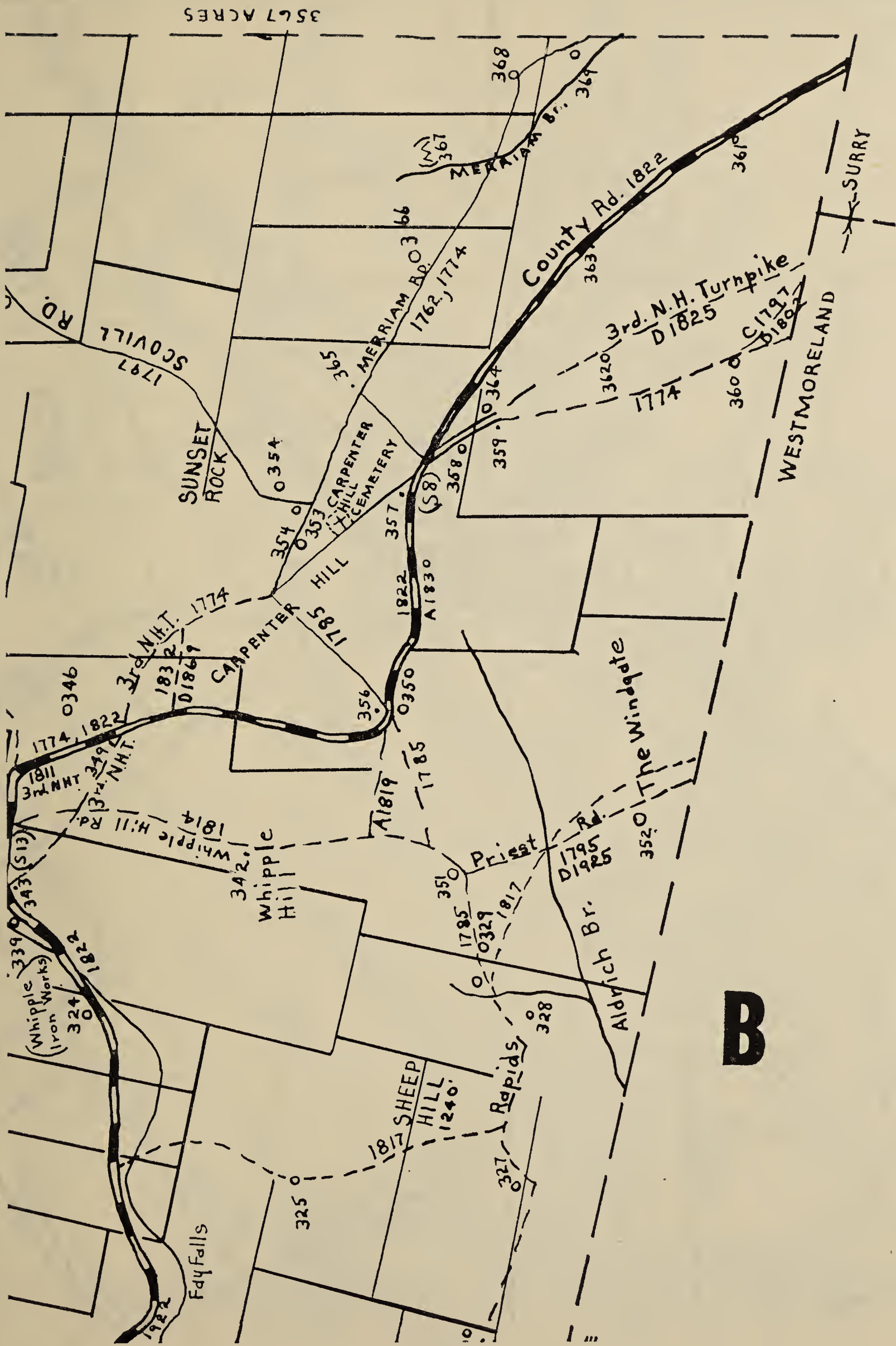


**A**



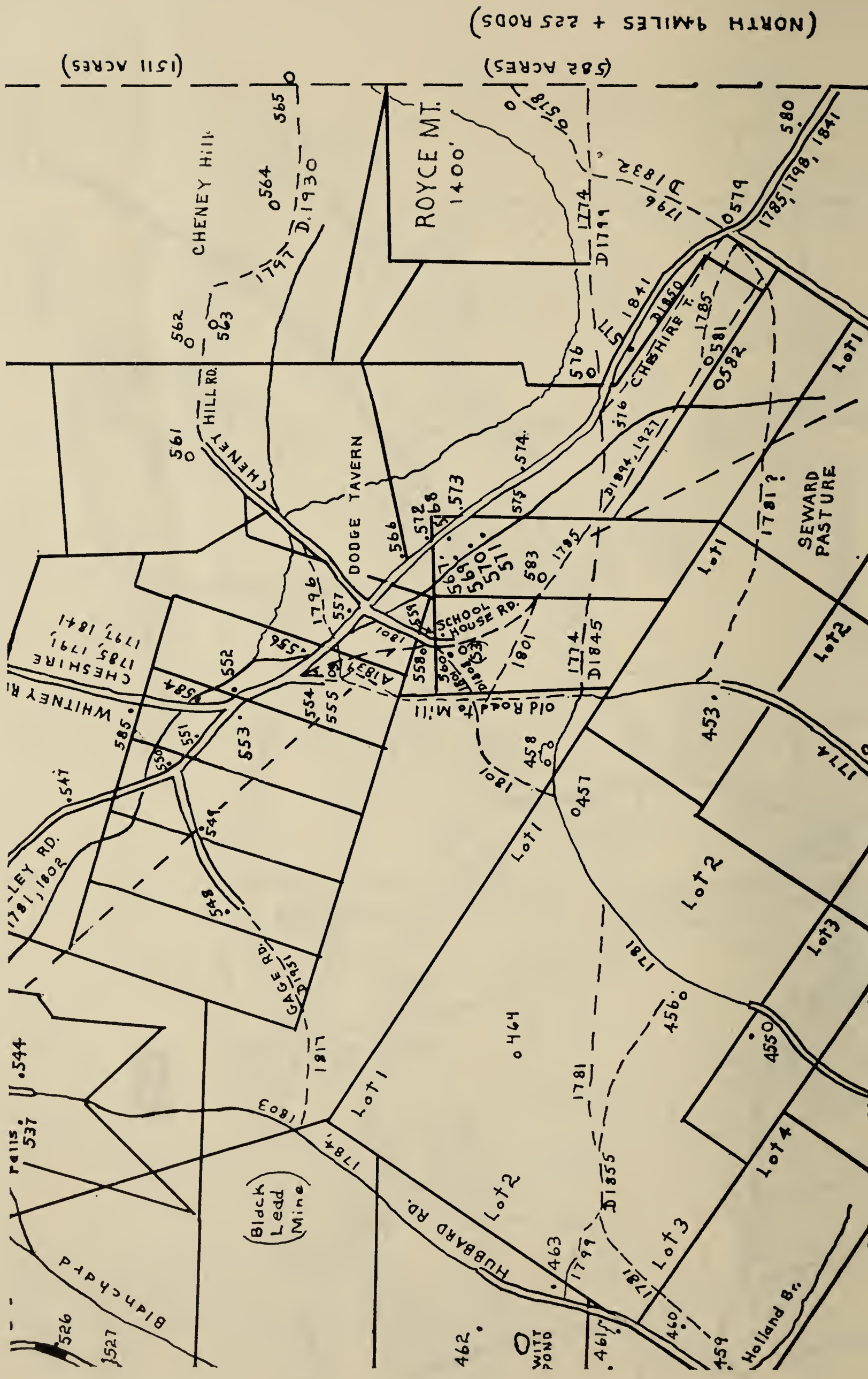






**B**





(NORTH 94MILES + 225 RODS)

(1511 ACRES)

(582 ACRES)

ROYCE MT.  
1400'

CHENEY HILL

DODGE TAVERN

CHESHIRE T.

SEWARD PASTURE

SCHOOL HOUSE RD.

Old Road to Mill

HUBBARD RD.

WITTY POND

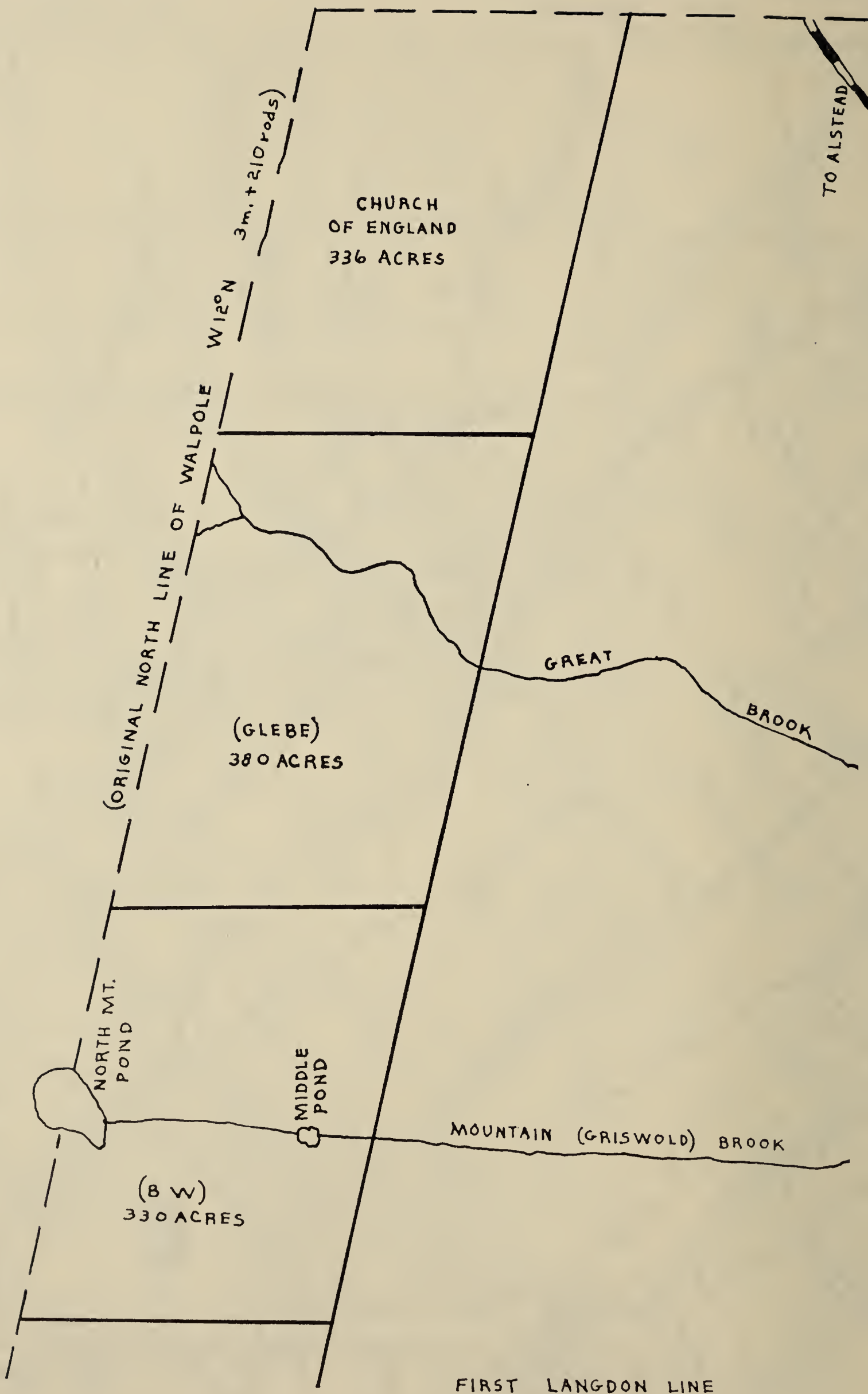
Holland Br.

(Black Lead Mine)





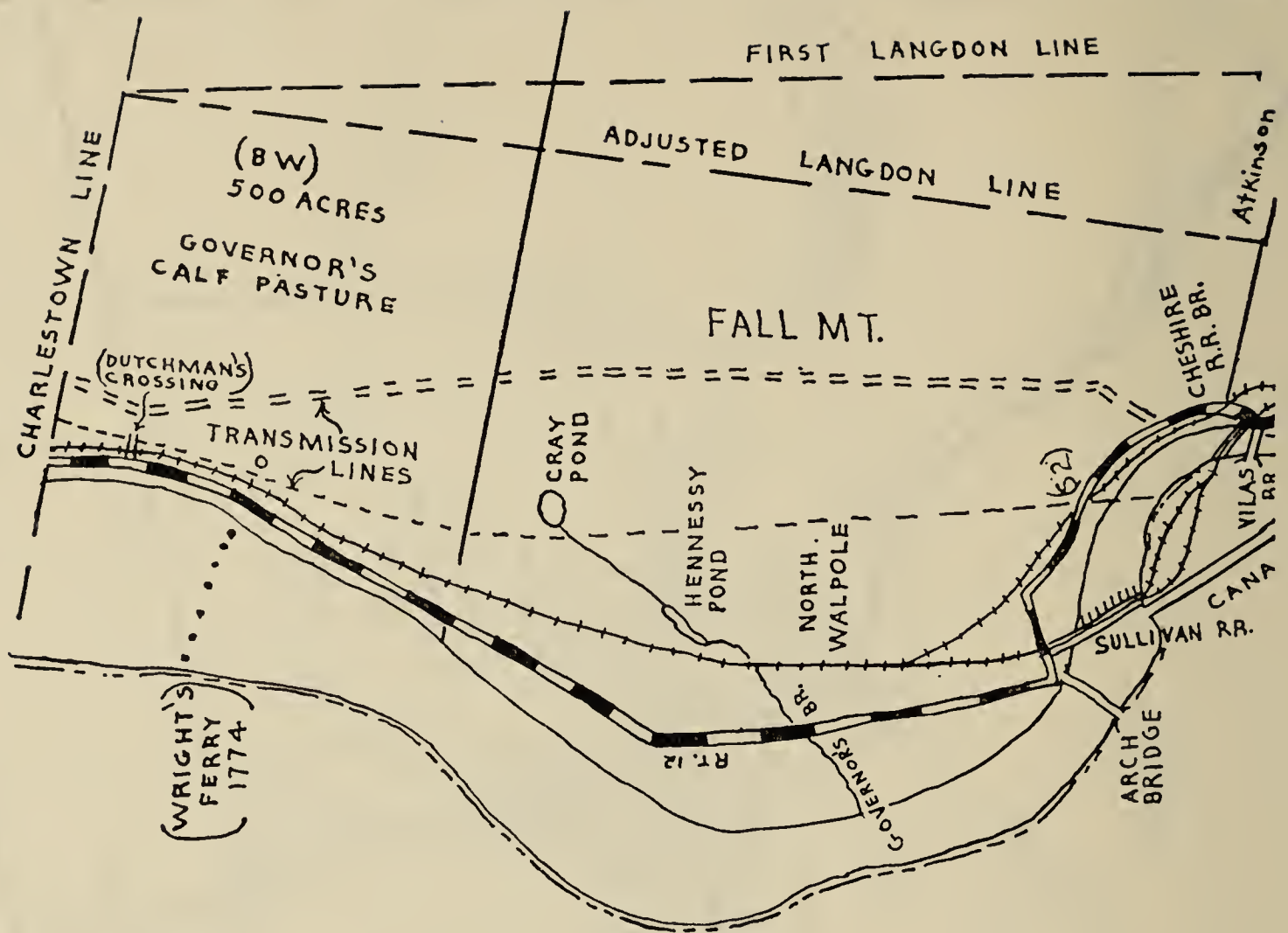








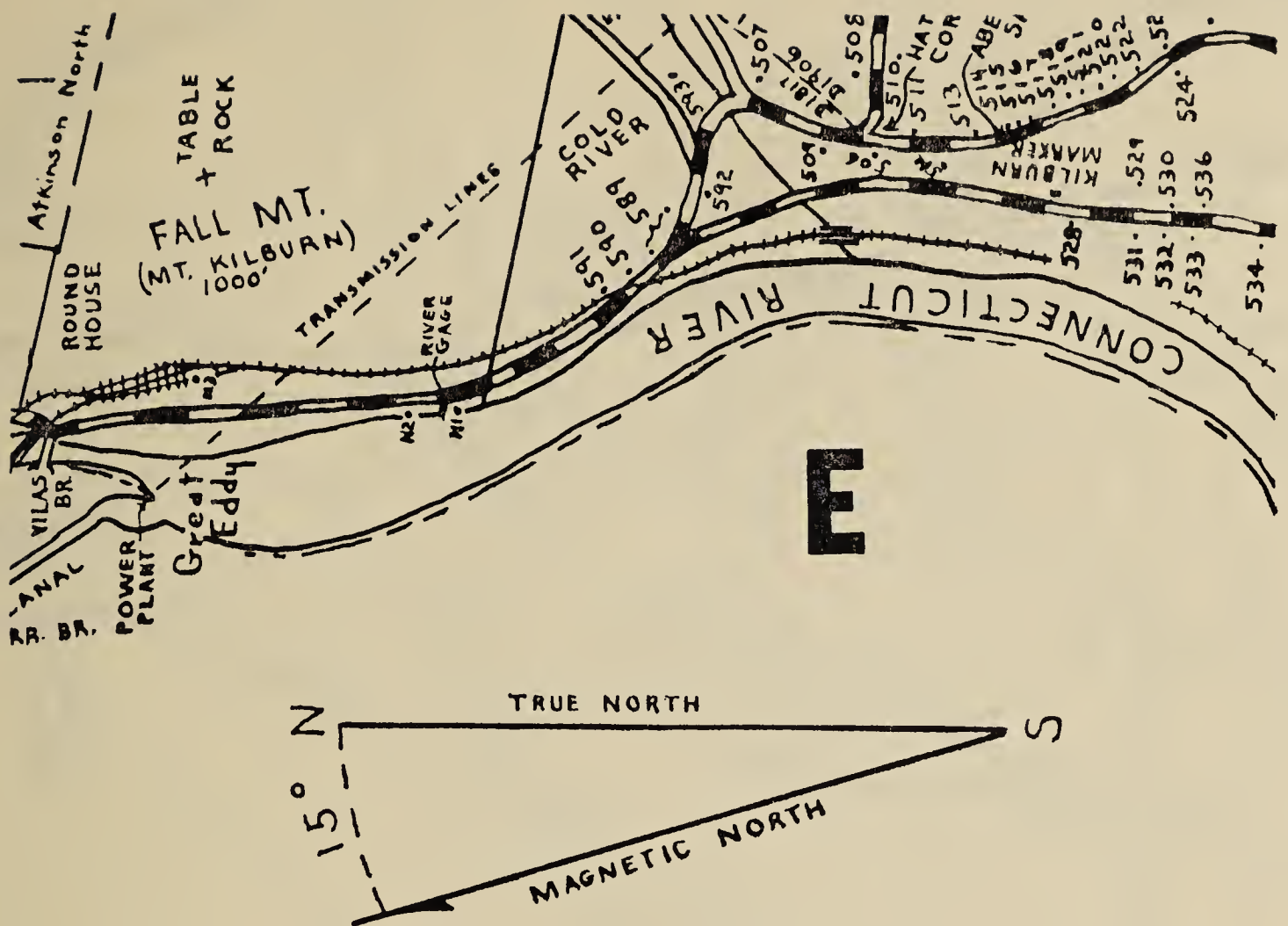




tentions tearing out fixtures to save them from the fire. Mr. and Mrs. John O'Brien, farmers for the owners, were out for the evening and returned at the height of the fire. Mrs. Hudson Farnsworth saw the fire and sent in the alarm at 11:39 P.M. She was unable to save the stock, but took the children from the house—Barbara 7, John Jr. 6, and Robert 3, and Robert Daniels. Mr. Harris had just taken the sleeper to New York, came back and announced that he was through farming. The rest of the land from here south to the north line of Lot #1 in 3rd Range (to Leighton Bridge place) belonged to John Bellows.

218. HARRY H. BOUDRIEAU: In 1818 Hubbard Bellows (son of John) sold one-half an acre to Margaret McLaughlin next south of the O'Brien place, the land forming a small wedge between the old and newer River Roads; Rebekah and James Rafferty of Moria, New York, inherited; 1880 to Lucius Slade for his mother Eunice; 1901 to Carrie L. Knowlton; 1910 to Lelia L. Sawyer; 1921 to Eli Bashaw, blacksmith; 1923 to Howard A. Hildreth; 1935 to George E. and Nellie E. Wheeler; foreclosure by bank which sold 1938 to Hudson G. and Mary A. Farnsworth; 1948 to present owners.





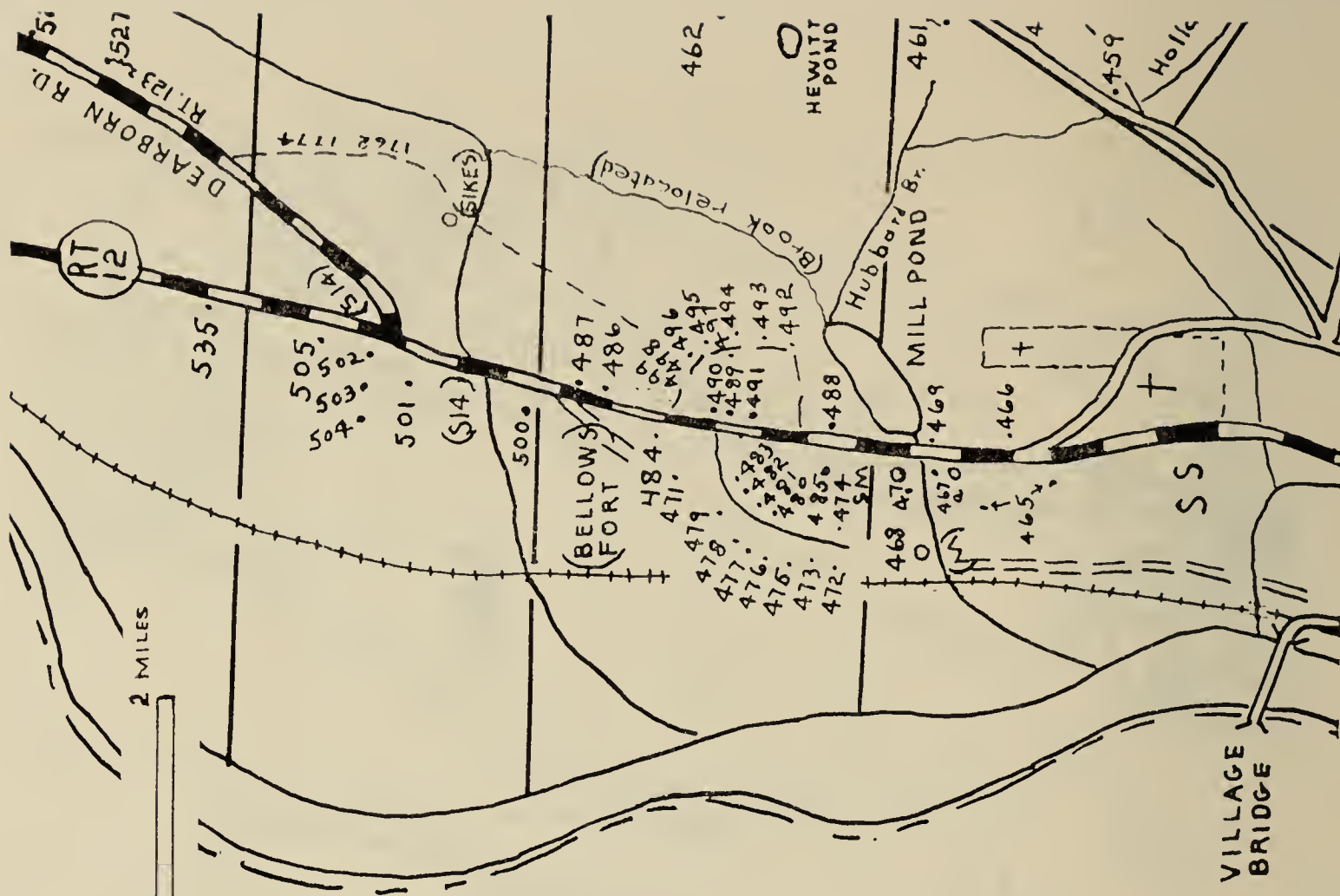
Margaret McLaughlin supported herself by weaving rag carpet. In 1822 she sold a strip of land two rods wide on the south side of her land to Lucinda Bennett. After she died Woodard Hinds bought in 1854; 1859 to Jarvis Hinds; 1859 to George Rust; 1868 to Allen Dunshee, making it a part of the O'Brien farm. The Bennett house was gone before 1858.

#### EAST SIDE OF RIVER ROAD

219. MRS. MARTIN MURRAY SR.: In 1841 when Dr. George S. Smith owned the Endicott place on Wentworth Road, he sold this house lot to James Gibson of Keene, "reserving slaughter house . . . with privilege of removing . . ."; 1847 his estate to Eleanor Gibson at auction at DeWolf's Inn for \$125; 1856 her niece Mary Delany of Keene inherited. She married Patrick Murray, and they were here by 1858. They were the grandparents of Martin W. Murray Sr.

Hubbard Bellows had that part of his father's (John Bellows) estate on the east side of River Road, selling in 1841 to William Buffum; 1844 his





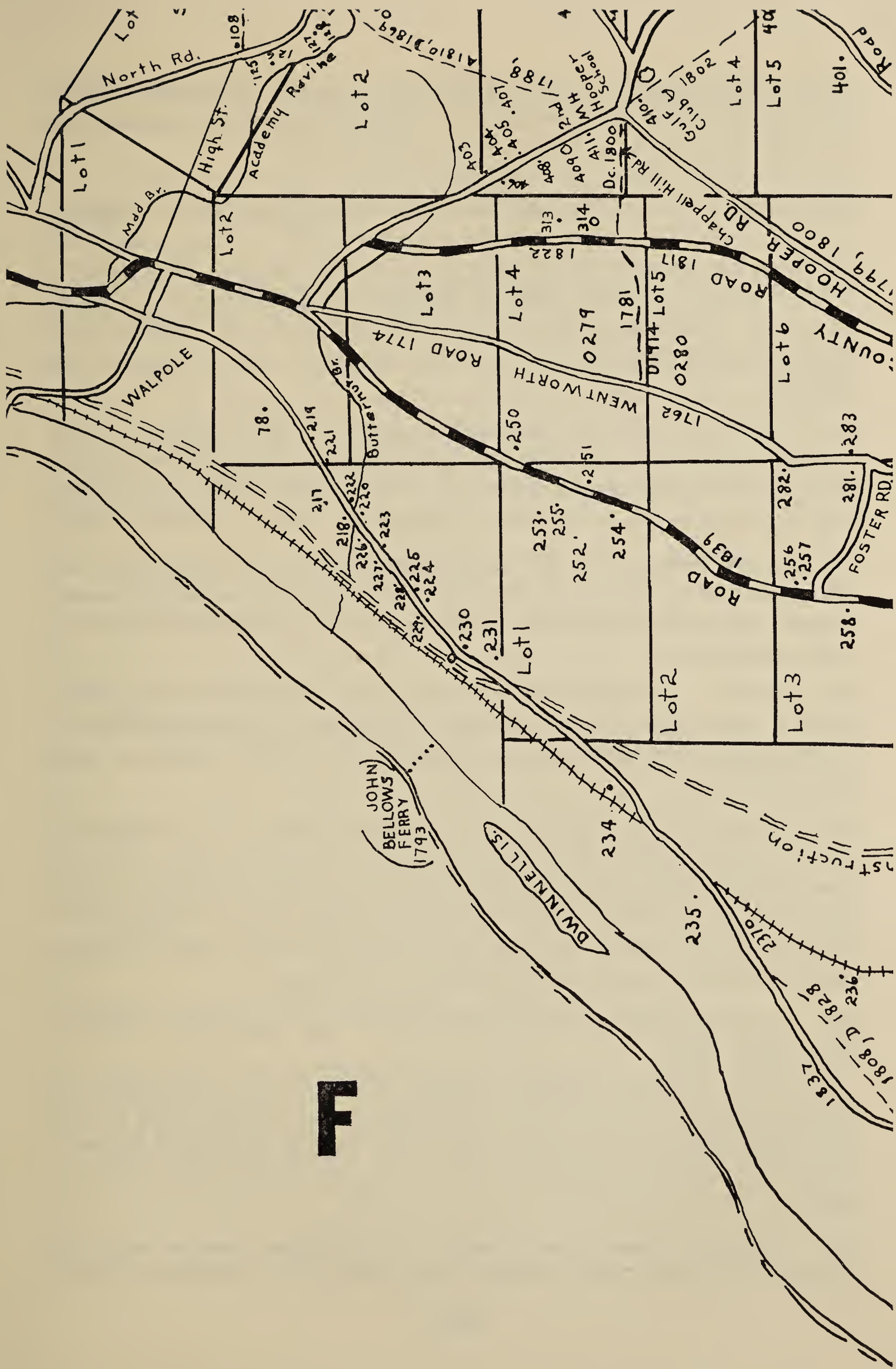
## LEGEND

	MAIN ROADS
	IMPROVED SURFACE
	UNIMPROVED SURFACE
	DISCONTINUED
A	ALTERED
D	DISCONTINUED
c	ABOUT - APPROXIMATELY
?	NOT SURE OF LOCATION

S	SCHOOL
M	MILL
(X)	NO LONGER THERE
o	CELLARHOLE
+	BUILDING - USUALLY A DWELLING
- - -	TOWN LINE
— — —	COUNTY LINE

0 1/4 1/2 2 MILES  
SCALE: 1667 FEET = 1 INCH





**F**



heirs to Oliver Martin; 1847 to Frederick W. Scovill. Martin had buildings then, but they were probably the Melvin Ramsay buildings on the west side of the highway; 1849 to John Cole (Mary E.).

220. JULES D. CUSHING: In 1852 Cole sold the north part of the property to Anson Dale, who probably built this house; 1853 to George Rust for \$3700; he left it to the Slades; 1906 to Lelia Slade Sawyer (Mrs. Henry); 1938 to Thomas F. and L. Rachel Donnelly of Craftsbury, Vt.; 1948 to Clifford S. Chickering; 1948 to Jules D. and Sadie M. Cushing and Walter W. and Doris W. St. Peter. The property now belongs to the Cushings.

221. ELMER W. TOLE: In 1939 the Donnellys sold to Nelson J. and Ardelle McKenven three acres on the knoll south of the Murray house, where the McKenvens built the house. In 1947 Ardelle McKenven Lyons sold the property to John Albert McKenven; 1950 to present owners.

222. SIDNEY BUSTARD: In 1949 the Cushings and the St. Peters sold the house lot here to Clarence L. Bodine (Marjorie E.), who built a house; 1950 to Robert M. O'Neill (Margaret L.); 1954 to present owners from Rockingham, Vt.

223. VERNON A. KENYON: While the Donnellys owned the Cushing place in 1942, they sold a lot next south of their house to Chester Duprey. Later, they bought back the land and sold it in 1947 to Kenyon, who built the house.

224. MELVIN RAMSAY ESTATE: The land next south, the Coles sold in 1852 to Silas M. Bates. There was probably a house here then; 1853 to Anson Dale; 1853 to Joseph B. Mead; 1865 to Uriah Newton, son Hubbard inheriting; 1882 to Josiah Johnson of Keene; his heir Harriet F. Johnson 1891 to David N. Wright; 1891 to Clara and Betsy Gowing; Clara willed the property to Melvin and Junie Ramsay.

225. KENNETH RAMSAY: He had this land from his father and built the house about 1956.

Col. John Bellows' daughter Hannah Stone (Mrs. David) had her father's land on the west side of the highway. In 1829 she sold the 40 acres next south of the Livingston land and "opposite Hubbard Bellows' brewery" to Stephen R. Bradley; 1831 to Henry S. Tudor; 1850 to Oliver Martin.

226. MARY J. WALKER (JADKOWSKI): In 1852 Oliver Martin sold this property to Anson Dale; 1853 to George Rust, who willed it to the



Lucius Slade family; Lelia Slade Sawyer built this house for herself; 1942 her estate to Mary J. Walker.

227. CHESTER D. DUPREY: In 1938 Lelia L. Sawyer sold to Thomas F. and L. Rachel Donnelly; 1943 land and buildings to Chester D. and Ruth S. Duprey.

228. HENRY WALKER: In 1948 the Donnellys sold this land to Arthur H. Chickering (Irene A.); 1948 to present owners.

229. MELVIN RAMSAY ESTATE: In 1852 Oliver Martin sold this property to Anson Dale (Sarah), who had a house here in 1858; 1863 to Thomas F. Watkins (Martha W.); 1866 to Henry J. Stowell; 1866 to Henry W. S. Griswold (Eliza); 1867 to Luther D. Knowlton; 1868 to Calvin C. Gowing; his daughter Clara inherited it, and left it to Melvin and Junie Tiffany Ramsay.

230. LEON JONES: In 1860 Oliver Martin sold this property to George Rust, who left it to the Slades; 1933 Lelia L. Sawyer to Leon and Sophie Jones. They first had a shop here, then made the building into a house. They have moved the house (1962) to the east side of the highway to make way for the new Rt. 12.

231. GEORGE LEIGHTON BRIDGE: About 1937 the Bridges built a new house on the side hill east of the River Road, on the north line of the old Lot #1 in 3rd Range, a part of the Bridge estate (see #252). The early history of this section is open to conjecture. In 1772 Samuel Chase owned Lot #1 in 3rd Range and sold to Benjamin Bellows who willed to his son Theodore; 1786 to Amasa Allen, who in 1792 bought more land to the north from Col. John Bellows. Probably his barns stood on the east side of the highway somewhat south of the Bridge house, and the house on the west side where a cellarhole is to be found on the west bank of the railroad, well concealed by sumac and grapevines.

Earlier records show that Timothy Delano sold to Samuel Chase the 10 acres immediately north of Boggy Meadow's north line in 1765; 1775 to Levi Hooper. The land next north belonged to Ebenezer Hatch in 1765; to Col. John Bellows in 1775. It is not clear how he came by it, but in 1799 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold the 21 acres here west of the highway to Amos Butterfield, who had a house here. Apparently he lost title to the property, because in 1809 Caleb Bellows and Samuel Grant, heirs of Benjamin Bellows Jr., sold to Thomas Cunningham, who was already living in the house. This house may have burned, for in 1811 he ex-



changed with Allen for the land on the west bank of the railroad cut, where the cellarhole is located.

In 1822 William Buffum bought the Allen farm and in 1824, the Cunningham farm; 1846 the heirs sold property rights to the railroad for about \$300; apparently what they owned on the west side of the highway. Whatever may have remained of the Butterfield cellarhole was probably obliterated by railroad construction. If there was still a house on the Allen cellarhole, it was of no use after the railroad was built. Barns remained on the east side of the highway, notably the tobacco barn in 1882. More recently a slaughter barn stood here. All gone now. This is the farm to which Allen went early in the morning, as described by Mrs. Barnes. (See #172.)

BOGGY MEADOW FARM, HENRY B. CABOT: When Benjamin Bellows and Theodore Atkinson divided the town between them, two-thirds to Bellows and one-third to Atkinson, a part of the latter's share was this 1000 acre tract. The southeast corner was on Rt. 12 at the Hall Crossing Road; the east line ran due north along the west line of the 3rd Range to a point near the River Road, then a short bound west to the river. William K. Atkinson, who lived in Dover, N. H., inherited the tract; 1814 for \$25,000 to Josiah Bellows 2nd and David Stone, with buildings; 1816 Josiah Bellows 3rd became a partner in ownership; 1821 Josiah Bellows 2nd dropped out. In 1822 Jonathan Mason purchased the property which is still in the family, having come down through William P. Mason to Fanny Mason to Henry B. Cabot. In 1823 Jonathan Mason built a large barn which was for many years considered the largest farm building in these parts. It was 60 feet square in the center with a lean-to on each side, which made the entire building 100 feet square. It took 11,559 feet of square timber for the beams and sills, and 97,500 shingles to cover the roof. Recompense Hall and Joel Chaffin were the carpenters. It took the united strength of 300 men working 5 hours and 40 minutes to raise the barn. It remained substantially as it was built for some fifty years. New pen stables were built in 1959.

232. RED FARM HOUSE: This house on the west side of the highway near the road to the river is probably the oldest house on the farm.

233. MANSION: On the height of land overlooking the farm is the mansion. In back of it are three houses erected by the Masons for their help, and a small place farther east built by Fanny Mason for her companion.

Miss Fanny Peabody Mason died in 1948, aged 84, leaving for charita-



ble distribution an estate of \$4,000,000 which by sound investment she had built up from the fortune left to her by her father, William Powell Mason. Her only brother had drowned 60 years earlier. Practically everyone with whom she had come in contact was named as beneficiary in her will. To Paul Doguereau, a concert pianist who was her protégé, were left bequests to establish a music center. The Town of Walpole was left much of her woodland for a town forest.

234. CUMMINS CATHERWOOD: This was the north 63 acres of Boggy Meadow Farm sold in 1818 to Thomas Seaver; 1831 to Josiah Bellows 3rd; 1848 his daughter Sarah K. Bellows to Frederick Wier the north 39 acres, apparently adding the remainder to the farm to the south; 1852 to Elias Hardy (Alice W.); 1859 to Joshua C. Clark (Mary B.); 1861 for love and affection to Joshua Boylston Clark (Sarah B.); 1867 to Benjamin and Alvin Dwinell; 1907 to Harmon Whitton, who raised tobacco here; 1909 to Fanny Mason; 1937 to Harry B. Brown who ran it as a dairy farm; 1949 to Cummins Catherwood. The barn burned on September 22, 1942. In 1809, the road here was relocated, the new road going through an old house west of the old road.

235. TRACK FARM, HENRY B. CABOT: In 1822 Stephen Rowe Bradley bought the 150 acres next south of #234, out of Boggy Meadow Farm, for his daughter Stella C. Bellows, who left it to her daughter Stella K. Bellows (Mrs. Harry Hibbard of Bath, N. H.); 1872 to John B. Russell and John C. Brown; 1873 to Leonard Holland; 1876 to Henry J. Watkins; 1886 to David W. Leach of Westminster, reserving the blacksmith shanty; 1903 to Fred Lebourveau; 1903 to Copley Amory; 1903 to Fanny Mason. At the north end of the farm the large field was developed as the Cheshire Trotting Park. The buildings here burned August 31, 1906. The ell from the brick house was moved here, not covering the whole of the old cellarhole, which has not been filled.

236. BRICK HOUSE, CHARLES C. CABOT: The Bradley farm extended south to include the large brick house, probably built by Bradley. This place came back to Boggy Meadow Farm when Fanny Mason bought it in 1905. She left to a protégé, Paul Doguereau; 1951 to Henry B. Cabot; 1951 to Charles C. Cabot. This property includes the two brick houses.

237. PARK SWITCH: In the point south of the railroad crossing is the cellarhole of the small, plain cottage built by the railroad for George Stanley, who ran the extra woodburning engine used to help push or pull trains over the Summit between Walpole and Keene. The old barn



nearby was the engine house, later used by Wright as a tobacco barn, and at one time as a slaughter barn. Stanley left here in 1891, and the house burned in May, 1893, while occupied by Curtis.

238. HENRY B. CABOT'S WATKINS FARM: In 1860 William Mason sold to William Watkins 187 acres, a strip of the south part of the farm from the river to the east line, for \$10,000. His brother Henry J. Watkins inherited the land, then Alice M. and Albert H. Watkins; 1906 to Joseph Sargent Jr. of Boston; 1906 to Fanny P. Mason, O. H. Ploof occupying at the time.

The barns here burned on May 5, 1882. About 8:00 P.M. the barn was discovered to be on fire, already out of control. The fire was set by Charles Farnsworth (16) who had been put here to work and wanted a change. Seventeen head of cattle, three horses and several sheep were lost. The place was then occupied by Fred Smalley.

Miss Fanny Mason built the house to the south for her manager, McIlvaine.

A barn burned here August 14, 1927, and was rebuilt in 1930.

According to the early Bellows map of the town, Benjamin Bellows owned all the land south of Boggy Meadow Farm in 1766. From the land records it has been determined that very early this tract was divided into three farms: the Chandler farm (the 300 acres next north of the Westmoreland line); the Andrew Spear farm, extending from the north line of the Chandler farm (about even with the brook on the north side of the second meadow) north to include the Burt land; and the William Smeed farm.

The very early records on these three farms are obscure or missing. It is possible that John Chandler and Andrew Spear had their farms by virtue of their rights as grantees of Westmoreland. It is claimed that when Benjamin Bellows made his plan of Walpole and obtained his New Hampshire charter he included two miles (more or less) of what had been granted by Massachusetts to Westmoreland. Trouble over title followed in later years.

How far east these farms extended is not clear. To be 300 acres the Chandler farm would need to extend to the 3rd Range, but later records indicate other land owners between the Chandler tract and the 3rd Range. The bounds of the Spear land are indicated only by the descriptions of the farms to the north and south.

William Smeed bought from Benjamin Bellows prior to 1770 a strip south of the Atkinson Farm from the river east to Wentworth Road,



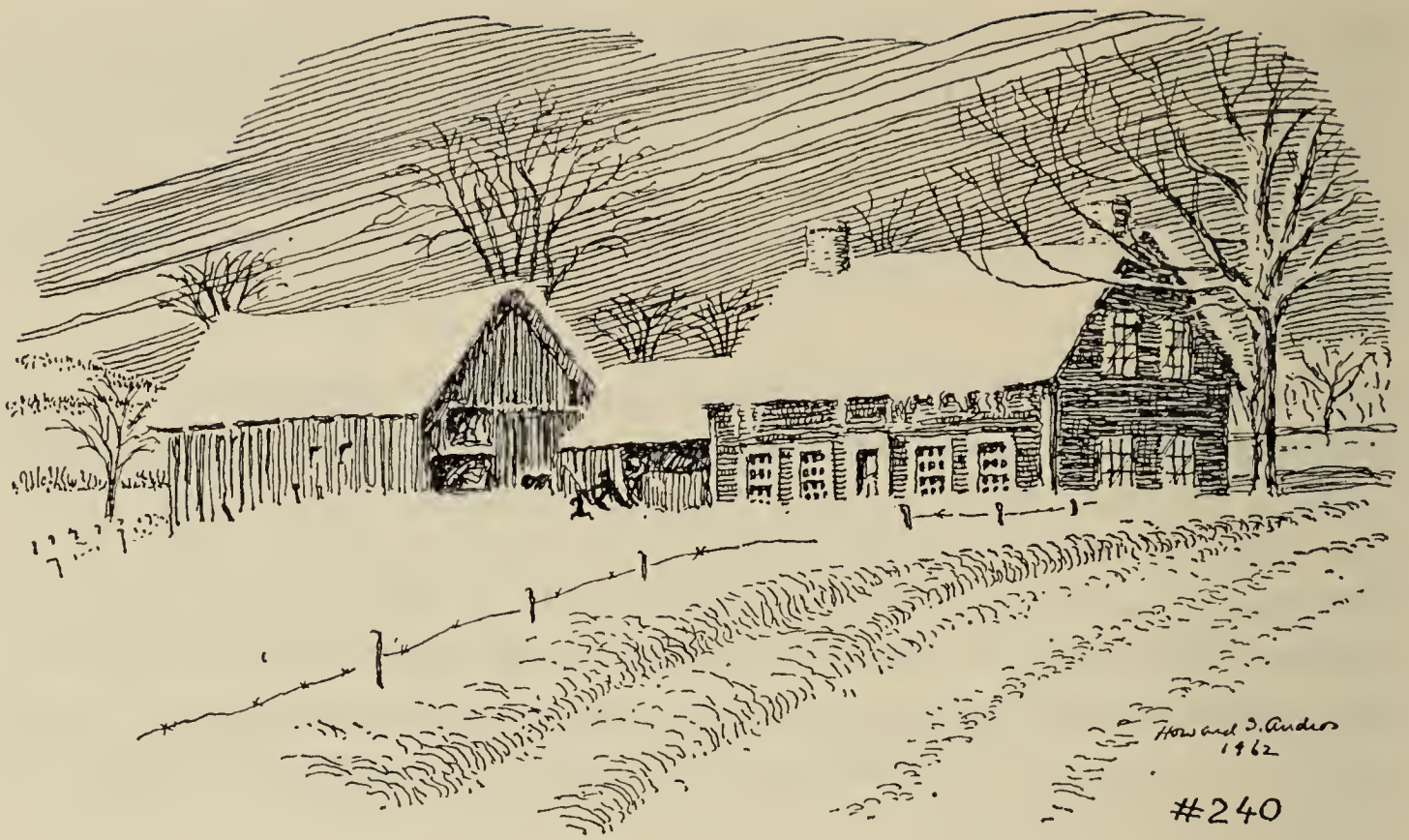
including Lot #8 in the 3rd Range. In 1770 he sold the tract next to the river to Elisha Marsh of Westminster, Mass., who settled here and erected buildings; 1783 to Aaron Allen, probably the father of James Allen who lived on Rt. 12. James had a sawmill on the brook on Aaron's land in 1800. In 1801 Aaron Allen sold the property to Samuel Turner of Mansfield, Conn.

239. FRANKLIN C. BARRETT: In 1813 Samuel Turner sold to John Turner, reserving the "millspot" and a house occupied by Elijah Turner; 1837 to Allen Dunshee; 1867 to Eben Burr of Westmoreland, except the six-acre millspot; 1877 to John B. Knight of Westmoreland; 1894 to his sister Mary K. Ward of Westmoreland; 1916 to Fred Smalley; 1927 to Arthur Chickering Jr.; 1943 to Edward B. Knapp; 1951 to Evelyn O. King (Mellen); 1953 to present owners. Only the house remains. It went through a period of dilapidation but has been restored by both the Knapps and the Barretts.

240. EDDY L. HALL: In 1873 Eben Burr sold a strip about 18 rods wide from the River Road to the river on the north side of his farm to Rhode M. Wilbur; 1911 heirs to Fred A. Ramsay; 1912 to his daughter Lizzie M. Mellish. Her husband was drowned in the river (see *Bellows Falls Times*, May 14, 21, 27 and June 3, 1913), and she later married Elkins, removing to Hampton Falls. She sold in 1917 to Fred O. Smalley; the same year, he sold the north half to Fanny P. Mason. In 1949 Henry B. Cabot, for the Mason estate, sold one-half an acre of this land with right of a spring across the road to the present owners. The old house burned about 1950 and the Halls built the present house. The old house may have been the one Samuel Turner reserved for Elijah.

241. SMALLEY FARM: WEISS A. SAWYER AND ALFRED W. SAWYER: Hugh Dunshee came to Walpole from Londonderry about 1784 (AH 244) and worked for Dr. Abraham Holland for about three years. In 1787 he married Cynthia, daughter of James Allen, and located on land lying north of Henry Burt's, no doubt the south part of the Aaron Allen farm. After he died in 1829, his son John had the place; and then his son Lewis; 1862 to Levi Lyman; 1872 Caroline M. and Orice W. Dwinnell (she being formerly the wife of Lewis Dunshee). In 1884 the bank foreclosed; 1885 to Fred O. Smalley of Claremont. Calvin Dunshee had occupied the property in 1877. In 1927 Smalley sold it to Arthur H. Chickering Jr. The farm was carried on by Albert Chickering. The buildings burned early in the morning of August 9, 1940, while Chickering was away on a buying





*Old Wilbur Place*

trip. Neighbors aroused the family and gave the alarm. A yoke of oxen was lost.

While Smalley owned the farm, it was prosperous and he expanded by operating several other farms in the neighborhood; 1943 purchased by present owners.

242. CLARENCE J. JEFFREY: In 1826 Carlton Wiers married Laurinda Dunshee, daughter of Hugh Dunshee. She bore two children, Lewis and Diana. After her death he married her sister Diantha. They resided in Stockholm, New York, where he died in 1849 (*AH* 244). In 1854 Mrs. Wiers bought from her nephew, Lewis H. Dunshee, one quarter of an acre of land on the west side of the River Road, next to the Burt north line, with buildings and the "old cider mill spring on Dunshee land about 4 rods north of the above tract". Here Mrs. Wiers and her step-daughter Diana resided, Diana remaining after Mrs. Wiers' death; 1900 to Alma G. Pierce of East Milton, Mass.; 1909 to Michael and Leslie M. Murray of Newton, Mass., who called it Catnip Ranch; 1930 to Arthur Chickering Jr.; 1934 to Adolphus R. Stevens; 1935 to Richard and Mary L. Busteed of Ridgewood, N. J.; 1950 to Harold C. and Lois Kenyon; 1954 to present owners. From the river going by this place was the old road from the boat landing to the mill and to the taverns on the Barrett and the John Kolvoord places.



Andrew Spear had left here by 1784, and Bellows was selling the land to others; practically all now belongs to Weiss A. and Alfred W. Sawyer. For identification we will use the old names of these places.

243. BURT FARM:

"Moses Burt, one of the old Revolutionary patriots, was the son of Aaron Burt, of Northfield, Mass., a wholesale merchant there of whom the settlers of Walpole used to purchase goods before a store was opened here. Moses was born in Northfield on February 14, 1756, and came to Walpole in 1775. . . . On August 14, 1777, when he was stooking wheat he heard the reports of cannon at the battle of Bennington and immediately left home for the scene of strife. He enlisted in the army for three months and when the time expired he returned to Walpole, but was soon drafted to serve nine months longer, which term he served out. In 1783 he married Submit Ross, supposed to have been an inhabitant of this town, and had ten children." (AH)

Their son Luther inherited what had come to be the Burt farm, the north part of the old Spear farm; his son Henry, who was single, inherited the farm and stayed on the old homestead; 1892 to his nephew, Waldo Burt (Ida); 1919 to Elwin C. Clough, 150 acres; 1920 to Arthur Chickering Sr.; 1931 to Arthur Chickering Jr.; 1943 to Edward B. Knapp; 1949 to Oliver and Mary J. Lawrence; 1950 to Joseph N. and Bernard P. Crosby of Brattleboro; 1952 to present owners, Weiss A. and Alfred W. Sawyer.

In 1922 Chickering built two new silos and greatly enlarged the barn. On May 30, 1930, all the buildings burned in the night: three huge barns with 100 tie-ups, two silos, a milkhouse, and the house. The fire started in an ell chimney. The children, who were asleep upstairs, were barely saved. The cattle also were saved. There is now only a small house.

244. SCHOOL #11: When Ida Burt deeded the Burt farm to Elwin C. Clough in 1919, she reserved the right to move the schoolhouse, on the west side of the road, south to a lot she reserved near the Ingham place. There she and her sister Lena C. Cobb, a jolly pair, lived. Ida Burt liked to do the inside work, so she kept the house and sewed, while her sister did the outside work, including the gardening. After the sisters were gone, Francis E. and Jean G. Daigneault of Athens, Vermont, bought the place in 1939. It went through the hands of Arthur Chickering and the Knapp brothers and in 1948 Weiss A., Josephine C., and Alfred W. Sawyer bought.

245. WARD L. ASHMORE: This lot was originally about two acres of land when Selah Turner, chairmaker, bought it in 1802 for \$20 from Samuel Wiers and Moses Burt. He must have built a house for in 1805 he sold to



Stephen Johnson for \$300.20; 1807 to Moses Burt who advertised it thus in the *Cheshire Gazette* February 10, 1826: "For sale good situation for most kinds of mechanics, on River Road near Moses Burt—1 acre good land, small orchard, house, barn, shop, 3½ miles south of Walpole Village." Luther Burt inherited the property; 1844 to Lewis J. Wilber; 1853 to Andrew J. and Charlotte Burt; to daughter Edna Burt Ingham. The widow of Dr. Ingham was a very dark-skinned woman who was a dress-maker. She shared her home with George Shaw, who was a relative. She left the property to Hannah Gove Jenkins of Barre, Vt.; 1940 to Arthur Chickering Jr.; 1940 to his sister, Nancy M. Douglas of Roslindale, Mass.; 1947 to her daughter, Helen C. Ashmore.

246. HOME PLACE—WEISS A. AND ALFRED W. SAWYER: This was Levi Lyman's home farm; 1870 to his sister Diana Ross and her son Levi A.; 1911, after the Ross family had died, to Arthur Chickering Sr.; 1912 to Livingston P. Lewis; 1917 to Henry Young, whose sons Carroll H. and Merrill lived here also; 1919 to Arthur Chickering; 1931 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1943 to Edward B. Knapp; 1948 to the Sawyers from Unity, N. H. The buildings burned on September 17, 1927, and were rebuilt.

247. CHARLES CHICKERING PLACE—WEISS A. AND ALFRED W. SAWYER: This cellarhole is part of the old Spear farm, known as the Angier farm, although no Angier ever held title to it. In 1802 Samuel Wiers and Moses Burt sold five acres here to Simeon Lyman. The property was absorbed into his son Levi's holdings. Apparently there were no buildings here in 1858, although there had been in 1826; in 1870 Levi Lyman sold the farm to Charles W. Chickering; in 1883 to Levi Ross whose children inherited it; 1904 to Prentiss and Norwood; 1905 to Henry Young. The buildings burned on December 9, 1916—dwelling, barn, shed. Fred Graves lived here before Young owned the property.

Simeon Lyman was brought up by Samuel Wiers, who set him up as a blacksmith ". . . in a shop that once stood on land near the Lyman homestead, on the east side of the highway . . . and lived in a house near his shop till April 4, 1846, when he died aged 81." At the top of the bank, north corner of Genzer Road with the River Road, are the remains of old foundations, probably Simeon Lyman's house and/or shop.

248. CHANDLER FARM—SAMUEL J. CHICKERING JR. AND ARTHUR H. CHICKERING: In 1762 John Chandler, yeoman, sold to Jonathan Burt and Samuel Wiers of Northfield for £90 his 300 acre farm in the southwest corner of



Walpole; 1795 Jonathan Burt, then of Windsor, Vt., to Samuel Wiers.

However, in 1766 Aaron Burt had sold to William Molineaux of Boston the same 300 acres; 1771 to Charles Ward Apthorp of New York City; 1772 to Crean Brush.

Samuel Wiers settled here, having eloped with Aaron Burt's daughter, Mary. He was born in 1746, son of an English soldier who returned to England after the close of the war in which he was engaged leaving his son and daughter to be brought up by others. The daughter married Samuel Marshall, grandfather of John Marshall of Walpole.

Crean Brush, by his courtly manner, dash and ability, won for himself lucrative places of honor and trust across the river, although he was a rank Tory. For several years he was unscrupulous in business and got possession, by purchase or otherwise, of an almost baronial estate which included the Samuel Wiers farm in Walpole.

Before the close of the war he committed suicide. His daughter Elizabeth, whom he had left behind him in Ireland, laid claim to his property. She instituted a suit against Wiers and Burt which continued in the courts for some twenty years. In 1802 Wiers died and was buried on the premises, the belief being that by such action his heirs could hold the land. The suit was continued by his son, John H. Wiers. Weary of the law's delay, the prosecution offered to settle on an equal division. Burt wished to settle, but Wiers held out and they lost. However, they sued for "betterments" and the case continued until they recovered. Both parties were thoroughly beaten by the cost of the long suit.

Mrs. Elizabeth Brush Norman came into possession of the farm and sold it in 1816 to Stephen Rowe Bradley, Josiah Bellows 2nd, Josiah Bellows 3rd, and David Stone. They took the precaution of getting a quit claim deed from Thankful Wiers, widow of Samuel. Bradley bought out the other owners in 1817; in 1828 the farm was inherited by his daughter Mary, wife of Henry Tudor; 1850 the main farm to Levi Lyman; 1870 to Ira Holmes, to his widow Catherine B. and his son John P. In 1908 the farm was sold to Arthur Chickering Sr. and Clement L. Mansfield; 1931 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1934 to Arthur H. Chickering Sr.; 1944 his estate to Arthur H. Chickering Jr. and Samuel J. Chickering; 1946 to Henri Anger; 1953 to Samuel J. Chickering and Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1954 the latter sold his share to Samuel J. and Alice Chickering; 1955 to their two sons, Samuel J. Jr. and Arthur H. (Jimmy) Chickering.

The original buildings stood on the west side of the road; the house on the east side was built for Ira and Catherine Holmes. On May 7,



1930, the buildings on the west side of the road burned. They were later rebuilt. Then the barn on the east side was partly burned and rebuilt.

249. LYMAN CHICKERING FARM: This was the north part of the Chandler farm. There is not even a cellarhole now, only some stones, tawny lilies, roses. In 1858 the buildings were about opposite the west end of Genzer Road. In 1842 the Tudors sold the north part of the Chandler farm to Daniel Ross; 1948 to Levi Lyman; 1870 to Lyman J. Chickering; 1910 to Arthur H. Chickering, owner of the farm to the south, of which it is now a part. The buildings burned on June 10, 1901.

Levi Lyman, son of Simeon Lyman, acquired all the land from the Westmoreland north line up to and including the present Sawyer home place. He had no children and, as he grew older, he divided his holdings by selling to his two nephews farms side by side—the Charles Chickering farm and the Lyman Chickering farm. They both built homes and in later years lost them by fire.

## ROUTE 12, NORTH TO SOUTH

BRIDGE ESTATE: In 1822 William Buffum from Westmoreland, merchant in Walpole, bought the Amasa Allen farm (#1 in 3rd Range) from the Allen heirs; in 1824 he bought the Thomas Cunningham place on the river opposite the Leighton Bridge place; in 1836 William and David Buffum bought the Hubbard Bellows estate (from the Endicott place south on Wentworth Road to Lot #6 in 4th Range, west to the River Road and/or the Boggy Meadow line); about 1839 they divided the property between them. David took the Endicott place, east half of #2 in 3rd Range #5 and south part of #4 in 4th Range; while William took the rest. Various parcels were sold by the descendants; most of them were brought together again to form the Bridge estate in 1888.

250. WILLIAM BEER: In northwest corner of Lot #4 in 4th Range. This land was the part of William Buffum's estate bought in 1843 by James Jr. and Charles Hooper; 1846 to Levi H. Foster; 1868 to John W. Taggard; 1871 to Rev. Henry W. Bellows; 1889 his heirs to Hudson E. Bridge of St. Louis; 1908 to Charles Bellows of Brooklyn, New York, who built the house; 1948 his widow, Elizabeth L. to Hudson G. and Mary A. Farnsworth; 1962 to William and Joan Beer of Plymouth, Mass.

251. ROY A. SUNTER: David Buffum had bought the farm on the east side of the new road in 1843 and sold it to Bridge in 1888. The farmhouse was probably built about 1839 when the new road was laid. At one time



the John Hodgkins family lived here with their three daughters: Lizzie, who died at 18; Nellie, who married John Benjamin Russell; and a younger sister. Thomas Buffum, son of David, lived here, as did Will Parker, who was farmer for Bridge.

In 1931 Hudson E. Bridge sold the farm to Arthur N. Jennison; 1944 to Ottie B. and Eva Brooks; 1947 to Perley P. and Grace M. Allbee; 1947 to Philip C. and Olive P. Allbee; 1950 to Louise P. Seale of Bellows Falls; 1954 to Paul F. and Dorothy H. Wilson; 1955 to F. Wallace and Frances B. Patch; 1961 to Roy A. and Mary W. Sunter of Plainfield, New Jersey.

252. SAMUEL A. LEWIS, BRIDGE MANSION: Hudson Elliot Bridge of St. Louis, Missouri, built the mansion in 1890, having taken down a barn Holland had built here. The favorite pastime during the summer of 1890 was walking down from the village to watch the construction. In 1957 George Leighton and Dorothy F. Bridge sold the homestead to Samuel A. Lewis, having received it from Helen D. Bridge in 1939.

253. SAMUEL A. LEWIS: In 1946 the Bridges sold 11.7 acres north of the driveway to Samuel A. Lewis who erected the house.

254. DWIGHT H. JENNISON: In 1954 the Bridges sold the former carriage house to Leland F. and Dorothy B. Stanley; 1957 to present owners.

255. GREGORY MACRI JR.: In 1953 the Bridges sold one and two-tenths acres to Charles A. Flint of Bronxville, New York. He built the house, and he and Margaret C. Flint of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, sold it in 1955 to the present owners.

256. DEWEY EARL BOYNTON: In 1932 George E. Wheeler bought 8 acres here on the east side of the Keene Road and north of the Hooper cross-road from Willis C. Foster and built the filling station; in 1943 he (then of Fort Lauderdale, Florida) and Nellie E. Wheeler sold it to Avery M. and Grace E. Willson who kept the filling station; 1949 to Lawrence G. Cole, the Willsons having removed to Westmoreland; 1951 Cole, then of Fruitland, Idaho, to George W. Martin and Emma D. Leon of Marlow; 1953 the piece on which the filling station stood to Dewey Earl and Vernice Mae Boynton.

257. CLARENCE J. JEFFREY JR: In 1956 George W. Martin sold the remainder of the 8 acres to Clarence J. Jeffrey Jr. The Willsons probably built this house while they owned the property.



258. EDWARD C. MASTEN: (Lot #3 in 3rd Range). Lemuel Holmes bought this lot in 1774; 1780 to Samuel Fuller; 1791 to John Bellows and later to Benjamin Bellows; 1801 to Levi Hooper; 1839 to Samuel Grant; 1861 to Gardner Towne. There were no buildings here in 1858, but some were erected before 1877; 1864 to George M. Fay (Martha A.) who removed to Brattleboro; 1866 to Francis W. Perkins of Westminster, removed to Brattleboro; 1879 to Andrew J. Gates; 1908 to Henry Burrows; 1910 to Julia Wallace; 1912 to Harry S. Van Demark of New York City; 1935 his widow, Grace I., to their son Harry T. Van Demark.

The Van Demarks occupied this as a summer home. On March 11, 1918, the place was set afire by a tramp while it was closed for the season. The wind blew a lantern over and the tramp went to the neighbor's for help. The house was destroyed.

Harry T. Van Demark came to Walpole during the depression, first living in a house on Depot Hill. He later started a chicken business here, living then in a house on Dana Hooper's place, since torn down. He built the present house about 1945 and sold it in 1960 to the present owners.

259. BEATRICE GRAVES: In 1781 a road starting at the west side of Wentworth Road passed westward between Lots #4 and #5 in the 3rd Range. It crossed what is now Beatrice Graves' place south of the present house and north of the site of the barn. The original house on the place stood on the south side of this road near the northwest corner of the big barn built by Josiah Graves in 1895, which burned in 1950.

That part of the farm in Lot #5 David<sup>1</sup> Hall bought in 1778 from Joseph Barrett (Barrit), carpenter. This was known as Barrett Lot. Probably Barrett or Hall built the first house. Hall lived here until his death about 1806, and his widow Lydia lived here at least as late as 1843. The land next north in Lot #4 Hall bought in 1794 from John Moore, gentleman.

It appears probable that David<sup>2</sup> Hall and his wife Lucinda with their children David<sup>3</sup>, Prudy, Louisa and Levi lived here with his mother Lydia. Lydia had the house and the land on the southeast side of the old road for her third of the estate, and it appears that the rest of the farm may have been sold to settle the estate, David<sup>2</sup> buying at least part of it, eventually most of it.

The year before his father died David<sup>3</sup> had married and perhaps gone immediately to Charlestown to live. In 1841 he sold his father's holdings to settle his estate, his grandmother Lydia still retaining her third.

Ezra Hall, another son of David and Lydia, who resided at the Gilson



place (#267) began in 1843 to buy out the other heirs of Lydia. It appears that she died before 1849. He also bought other parts of the farm and left the property to his son Orin. Orin probably built the main part of the present house; Josiah Graves built the ell. Orin later moved to Northfield, Vt., and willed the property to his adopted son Edwin, who sold it in 1883 to Josiah Graves and others. The place still belongs to Josiah's daughter Beatrice.

260. CECIL MARTIN: Lot #4 in 3rd Range, West End. Sometime between 1774 and 1783, Simeon Smith must have sold the west end of the lot, probably to John Moor, with a jog in the east line to include the Martin place, one and one-quarter acres. Moor sold this little piece with buildings thereon in 1790 to John Crafts; 1793 for £5 to Recompense Hall, carpenter, who, the same day sold for £40 to Roswell Baldwin, laborer; 1803 to Jason Dudley; 1805 to Samuel Martin "with buildings thereon and shop standing on opposite side of highway." David Hall, who owned the land to the west, came into possession of the property; 1815 to Levi Hall; 1818 to Elisha Hooper; 1819 to Mary Flint, widow, who removed to Palmyra, Maine; 1829 to James Fuller; 1833 to Heman Gates; 1838 to Stephen Foster Jr., of Sullivan; 1839 to Preston Titus; 1882 to Frank Dunshee; 1895 to Maria L. Graves; 1916 to Josiah Graves; 1945 to present owners.

This place was rented to many different families during the years the Graves owned it.

261. SNOW CELLARHOLE: North side of Mill crossroad: This came out of Widow Lydia Hall's right, out of #5 in 3rd Range. Darius Graves owned this property, which was part of the mill property until Lewis Lane sold it in 1840 to Francis L. Snow for \$120. Whatever there was for a house was mortgaged to Lane and reverted to him. There are references to the Snow house here as late as 1874, although it does not appear on the 1858 map. It was probably used as a tenant house until it either burned or fell down. Snow was a blacksmith, horsetrader, and sheep farmer who seemed to move about frequently and usually lived on land of others.

262. ARTHUR J. HANNAN: This property was out of the west end of Lot #6 in 3rd Range which Benjamin Bellows sold in 1761 to John Graves. There were mills here as early as 1775, which probably belonged to Samuel Graves, son of John. In 1781 they were known as Edgills Mills. In 1793 John Graves sold the mills, renamed Gates Mills, to Jonathan Gates (Saviah) "with millstones and irons"; 1793 to Ephraim Lane who,



travelling on foot, stopped overnight at the tavern of Alexander Watkins. Here he made inquiry for mill property for sale and was told of this property thereafter known as Lane's Mills. On June 10, 1799, he advertised: "For sale in south part of town his grist and sawmills, about 2 acres land, good dwelling house and barn . . . on a good stream of water, business not exceeded by any other in town." Abel Cheney owned the mills briefly in 1799-1800, then resold them to Lane; 1803 Lane sold to Jonathan Chase. The sawmill was on the millpond on the west side of Rt. 12, which was farther east then; the gristmill was farther downstream on the south side; the dwelling house was nearby. Chase built the house on the east side of Rt. 12, south of the crossroad. Mrs. Marion Weymouth remembered going to dances here in an ell on the south side of the house. Only this house remains, except for the stand which Rix built at the road junction.

Chase sold in 1814 to Elisha Hooper; 1814 to Amasa Carpenter; 1816 to Hugh and John Dunshee; 1818 Hugh's share to William Dunshee; 1838 to Lewis Lane; 1868, 1872 to Levi Ross. In 1874-5 Lewis Lane again owned the mills; in 1883-5 Mary Elizabeth Hartwell (John E.) owned the house. Horace H. Hall bought the sawmill in 1875, the gristmill in 1881, and the house in 1885; 1906 the sawmill was sold to Anson Burbee; in 1887 the house and in 1889 the gristmill to Charles S. Hawks (Jennie A.); in 1907 Hawks sold his property to Cora B. Hill; in 1913 all the property was sold to John Dana; 1946 to William Lane (Gertrude B.); 1949 to Lloyd P. and Elizabeth T. Rix; 1953 to Fred D. and Mabel R. Hovey; 1956 to Maynard Allbee; 1962 to present owners of Stamford, Connecticut.

JAMES PUNT—blacksmith shop, out of next place south: In 1866 Daniel Ross sold to James Punt one-half an acre on the west side of Rt. 12, south of the road to the gristmill. A depression and clump of trees mark the spot where the blacksmith shop stood.

263. ALFRED M. HUEY: This was also part of John Graves' land; 1793 to his son Samuel; 1800 his estate to Amos Graves; 1806 to Jacob Kiblinger; 1806 to Ezekial Graves; 1807 to Ephraim Lane; 1860 to Daniel Ross; 1874 to Levi A. Ross; 1878 to Charles B. Hall; 1887 Horace H. Hall, son, to Sarah J. Hall (wife of Charles B.). Charles B. Hall, who came here from Surry about 1868, was a carpenter, blacksmith, farmer, and operated the sawmill on Great Brook until age overtook him. He was followed by his son Horace H., who operated the steam gristmill and dealt in feed and farmed until 1887, when he rented the mill to Charles Hawks and went



to Brattleboro to the Estey Organ Works. His three brothers who worked on the railroad were all killed in railroad accidents.

In June 1901 the Charles B. Halls celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at an outdoor party with one hundred guests. Charles B. Hall died in 1907 and the place was sold to Helen S. Cota; 1915 to Proctor & Buckminster for the timber; 1915 to Fred O. Lavine; 1921 to Howard M. and Doris D. Barkley; 1928 to Charles Burdick (Delia B.); 1940 to Leopold and Elida Giguere; 1945 to James E. and Ruth Brennan; 1951 to Clinton and Eloise Simmons; 1953 to Wayne Allbee (Elizabeth C.); 1956 to Maynard Allbee; 1961 to Alfred M. Huey.

264. JAMES E. BRENNAN: When the Brennans sold #263 in 1951, they reserved the southwest corner on the east side of Rt. 12 and built their new house here.

265. STANLEY A. PHELPS: This was out of the west end of Lot #7 in 3rd Range; 1807 Josiah Griswold to Hugh Dunshee; 1831 heirs to John Dunshee; 1852 Lewis H. and Caroline M. Dunshee to Amos and Cynthia Davis; 1853 to William and Achsah Wellington; 1853 to Josiah W. Batchelder; 1883 to John W. Marshall; 1925 estate to Eleanor Attwood; 1947 to Cornelius G. Attwood; 1948 to Katherine P. Keith; 1952 to Lawrence and Martha Cantliffe; 1953 to Guy W. and Louise W. Swallow; 1954 to Henry C. and Marion J. Nelson; bank took over; 1959 to present owners.

266. HERMAN L. SARGENT: This is the south part of lot above which Dunshee probably sold to Ezra Hall sometime between 1831 and 1847, and it belonged to his farm until Martin and Leon sold it in 1945 to Herman L. and Lula M. Sargent. There was a house here in 1858; the Sargents built their house on the old cellarhole. He is a bricklayer.

267. JOHN KOLVOORD: James Russell and his wife Lucy came to Walpole from Wellington, Connecticut, at an early period, joining the church here in 1770. Their son Jeduthan bought this place from William Smeed in 1786. Of his eleven children the eighth, Priscilla, married Ezra Hall in 1814. Their oldest son, Gardner E., owned the place. He was a passenger conductor on the Cheshire and Fitchburg Railroad. In 1879 his heirs sold to William Gilson of Milford, who made over the deed a year later to Mary E., wife of Albert A. Gilson. The Gilsons lived here for many years; in 1941 they sold it to Arthur H. Chickering. Mrs. Gilson returned to Milford, where she died recently over 100 years of age. In 1943 Chickering sold to Henry E. and Clara S. Gunnerson; 1944 to



George W. Martin and Emma D. Leon; 1946 to Eric B. and Vera Lundberg (dealer in scientific books); 1959 to John Kolvoord.

The early history of this house is obscure. On the 1858 map there is a house on the east side of the highway, a bit to the north, which at that time belonged to E. Hall. That may have been the original Russell house. It is not clear whether the Russells had built the big house or whether Ezra Hall built it. Mrs. Gilson gleaned the following bits of information from neighbors, particularly Mrs. Josiah Batchelder, who was Ezra Hall's daughter Almira.

"The big brick house was originally only the brick section, with a small ell on the southwest, I think in stage coach days. We were told that the bricks were made across the road. The manner in which the bricks were laid and the moulder bricks at the base of the house walls has been interesting to persons who have made a study of construction.

"One of the Hall sons, who lived in the west and was, I believe, a railroad man, called and wanted to see the northeast room on the first floor. He told us that was the bar-room and said change used to be lost between floor board cracks and when a small boy he used to go down a trap door and pick up the change. In the window casing of this room in the northeast window can be seen grooves where the wood was worn by the chair posts when tipped back. We did not have new casings made, when the eight windows were cut down a foot, thinking it was an interesting part of the history of the house. The cellar is not deep under this northeast room.

"When the Cheshire Railroad was built in 1847 the long addition was built. Men working on the railroad construction were fed here, much of the cooking done in the basement, large brick ovens and set kettles being used. A beautifully built dish closet with the name E. Hall plainly stamped on it is now in our possession.

"On the third floor the large hall with raised section for the musicians and the built-in benches is interesting. This hall was used for dances until about the time the Halls left town. We were told the hall was also used for Masonic meetings. One of their emblems could be found on the west wall as long as we lived there.

"It is also of interest to know that the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire held services in the southeast room for a group interested in organizing before Mr. Bridge built the Episcopal Church. They appreciated the Gilson invitation for a meeting place.

"Old residents told us that it was not unusual to have several Concord coaches in the yard and there was stable room for many horses.

"There was evidence of five fire-places. Many of the floor boards are about three feet wide and were cut from the old growth pine trees on the lot which was situated on the crossroad, connecting with the river road.

"For years a hollow-log watering trough has been located opposite the house where the never-failing water supply has refreshed the weary traveler and his horse and in time of drought has furnished the entire neighborhood their supply. A mineral spring in the edge of the woods on the crossroad at the right after crossing the railroad track was considered to have medicinal value and people used to go to this spring to fill their jugs."



268. MAURICE E. ROBBINS: In 1952 Robbins bought a house lot south of #267. The north house he built in 1960 and lives here. He is a carpenter.

269. CLIFFORD A. FOSTER: The south one of the two houses Robbins built and occupied, selling in 1959 to the present owner and his wife Ethel E., who has since died.

270. RENSE A. KOLVOORD—OLD SETTLER BOOKSHOP: Sometime prior to 1770 William Smeed bought from Benjamin Bellows a strip between Boggy Meadow Farm and Andrew Spear's land 135 rods wide from the river to the 3rd Range. Of the land next to the east he sold the north part in 1784 to Jeduthan Russell; 1786 land next south (55¼ acres) to Aquila Russell; 1792 to Aaron Allen.

According to *AH* these Allens “. . . were Baptists in religious views, and consequently very little can be gathered from the church records in town, for they had no sympathy with the church here.” In 1800 James Allen, probably son of Aaron Allen on the River Road, had a mill on the brook not far from what were later the Smalley buildings, on land belonging to Aaron Allen. In 1802 Aaron Allen (gentleman) sold to James Allen (husbandman) the land (45 acres) where the Old Settler Bookshop is now. “He was a mechanic and had a shop near by his house on the sand knoll where he made wheels for woolen and linen.”

In 1813 James deeded the farm to Ariel (Royal) Allen with the agreement that the deed would stay in force as long as Ariel provided for his Hon. Father James Allen and sister Lydia Allen good and sufficient victuals, drink, clothing, washing, lodging, comfortable house room and necessary fires suitable to their several situations together with necessary doctoring and nursing during their natural lives and at their decease give them decent burial. This agreement was made November 20, 1813, and James died eight days later, aged 73 years. His wife had died February 2, 1812 aged 62 years. There is no other mention of Lydia.

In the *Cheshire Gazette*, February 10, 1826, Ariel Allen advertised as follows: “The subscriber offers for private sale a convenient farm situated in Walpole, three miles south of the village, half a mile south of Dunshee's Mills and about half a mile from Connecticut River. Said farm contains 52 acres of land divided into commodious pasturing, ploughing and mowing lots, together with woodland, a house 30 x 40, a barn of the same dimensions and other outbuildings thereon.” On February 20th he sold the farm to his nephews John and William Dunshee and removed to Osselock, New York.



In 1828 William sold his half to John; 1857 Lewis H. (son of John) and Caroline M. Dunshee to Charles R. Hall of Westminster, Vt.; 1871 John D. Richardson (heir of Hall?) to Henry H. Fletcher; 1899 to Alice (Mrs. William, his daughter-in-law) Fletcher; 1903 the house on the east side and the barn on the west side of highway with some land to Marcella Mellish; 1918 to Mary J. Grenier; 1921 to Edwin W. Royce. He moved to Mt. Holly, Vt., and made over the property to the town to pay for care during his illness; in 1931 Louise E. Baker (widow) acquired the property and sold it in 1943 to the present owners from Windsor, Vt.

While the Fletchers owned the property, they had a meat market in the basement and a barn and a slaughter-house on the west side of the road. Kolvoord, who operates the Old Settlers' Bookshop here, has added to the house. The buildings on the west side of the road are gone.

271. GALEN TIFFANY: This was not a farm unit until about 1814. Samuel Martin had then bought from Ariel Allen and Amos Graves two plots totalling 12 acres; 1815 to Alvan Fletcher; 1817 to Edward Watkins. In 1821 Alfred Flint of Westmoreland (did he inherit from Watkins?) sold the land with buildings to Leonard Stone (Phebe); 1822 to John Turner; 1833 to Joel Aldrich; 1837 to Levi Burt, who built the present house in 1868-70 at a cost of \$3379.14; the barn in 1878 for \$1087.82; and the shop in 1838 for \$147.28. This was probably a cobbler's shop, judging by the scraps of leather and pegs that have been found around the premises. Grenier used it as a barber shop.

Burt was quite a carpenter. In the ell of the house, upstairs, he had a dance hall. The ceiling went up into the peak of the roof from which there were hanging lamps, one still remaining. More recently a stairway has been put up to the middle of this hall, and a room partitioned off at the south end.

The place remained in the Burt family until 1933, when it was sold after the death of Mary Jane Grenier (daughter of Levi Burt) to Guy E. and May E. Blood of Grafton, Vt.; 1937 to George and Galen Tiffany.

272. GALEN TIFFANY—CELLARHOLE OPPOSITE TIFFANY HOUSE: This place included land in the west end of Lots #8 and #9 in the 3rd Range and land between there and Route 12. It is possible that Aquilla Russell built the house about 1800. *AH* says he “. . . married Abigail, daughter of William Glazier, and had eight children, which number he deemed not sufficient for a poor man, but adopted two more . . .”; 1808 to Eli Russell; to Lydia, widow of John Graves Jr. She made over the place the



same day to her youngest son, Amos, but he leased to her for one kernel of wheat as annual rent; 1810 to Jeduthan Russell; 1815 to Samuel Martin; 1823 to Enoch Gale (hence the name, the Gale Lot); 1826 to Israel Fletcher. Though there was still a house here in 1858, it was probably gone by 1872. It is now a part of the Tiffany place and the cellarhole has been filled recently.

“At one time Hannah Fletcher (Luke) lived in a little one-story house that stood some fifty rods south of Henry Fletcher’s (Old Settler Bookshop). (Probably cellarhole #272.) She is said to have been intellectually vigorous. She got into some controversy at one time with one Bailey, a Baptist clergyman living in Westmoreland, on some religious points, and wrote a long disquisition in the form of a dialogue, defending her position, and got Henry Fitch to revise it for publication; but the cost of publication was not within her means, and it never took form in printer’s ink—a great disappointment to many of her friends.”

273. RAYMOND L. FLETCHER: On December 31, 1781, Jonathan Fletcher bought 40 acres of land from Benjamin Bellows for £100,

“. . . built himself a cabin in the wilderness and lived on the same place 73 years, where he died having attained to the unusual age of 100 years 5 months 4 days. He was in build a slender man, rather undersized, with a thin chest and somewhat stooping in carriage towards the close of life. He was out a short time in the Revolutionary struggle but never in any engagement. He was industrious when it was day, frugal in expenditure, temperate in habits, unobtrusive in demeanor, kind in his family and cheerful in disposition.

“He voted at every presidential election, and was punctual at town meetings, and in later years was honored with a seat in the desk, near the town officials, on account of impaired hearing. He was fond of reading and read much, having read the Bible through 29 times in 27 years, as he told his son. Watts’ hymns were frequently read and from some of them he derived much consolation. He retained his faculties, with the exception of hearing, to the last, and was as well as usual the day before he died. In the evening, while the family were unconscious of any special change, he calmly, peacefully and without a struggle passed away.”

He was succeeded on the place by his son Israel who added to the farm; 1872 heirs to Jonathan C. Fletcher. After her husband’s death, Mrs. Jonathan Curtis Fletcher became acquainted with Rev. Daniel Fox who was living at the Churches over on the Wentworth Road, where she went to help in the work. They were married and lived on Middle Street.

In 1908 Mrs. Fox and Mrs. Seward (daughter) sold the farm to Mary Jane Grenier; 1921 to Joseph A. Plant; 1928 to William H. Fletcher; 1935 heirs to Raymond Fletcher, another heir and son.

The original house, similar to that of Allen Holmes on Wentworth



Road, stood so close to the railroad that one could reach out of the window with a broom and touch a passing train. It burned on October 5, 1913 when Higgins, an employee of Grenier, resided here. Grenier built the present house for Charles and Jennie Ramsay, but they never lived here. Galen Tiffany works the land of this farm.

The original line between Walpole and Westmoreland may have been the north line of the Burt farm on the River Road. In 1781 a road was surveyed from the road on the north side of Jonathan Hall's land to the Westmoreland Road, the south terminus being about at Galen Tiffany's #271, in line with the old Burt line on the River Road. There are numerous references to this "Westmoreland Road", but no record of its having been built. Perhaps Westmoreland built it early, but didn't keep it up after it became a part of Walpole.

274. CELLARHOLE AND OLIVER SMITH: Sometime prior to 1800 Benjamin Bellows sold the 42 acres next south of #273 to Samuel Wiers and Moses Burt, who owned land on the River Road. After Samuel Wiers died, his son John sold the south 21 acres to John Marshall (1806 and 1811). This included the site of the Philip Lock house in 1788 near the northwest corner of the Robert Wier farm (see Wentworth Road); 1819 to David Clark; 1834 to Benjamin Floyd. Joseph Schneff is said to have occupied this house. There was no house here on the 1858 map. The house stood in the field below the overpass near the red gate, well down toward the old grade crossing, three or four rods west of the railroad. This was near the northwest corner of Lot #11 in the 3rd Range. Many of the stones from the foundations of this house were carted away to be used in the Smalley barn. In 1888 Joseph Schneff sold land here to John Blanchard; 1907 to Charles E. Seward; 1945 to George B. Tiffany, to Galen G. Tiffany; 1961 Oliver and Patricia Smith bought land here and are building a house on the north side of the new crossroad.

275. CELLARHOLE UNDER HIGHWAY: The north part of the lot (see #274) Moses Burt kept, except for a corner on the west side of the road, one-quarter of an acre, which he sold in 1816 to Adolphus and Cynthia Fletcher, who were probably related to Jonathan Fletcher. They may have built a house and resided here; about 1817, they sold to Thomas Russell. When Thomas died in 1845, he left to his son, Thomas Jr. ". . . the dwelling house and land where he now lives, it being the same land I purchased of Adolphus Fletcher . . . also proceeds of one cow I let him have; also one cooking stove he now has in his possession. . . ."



That same year the Cheshire Railroad paid damages of \$200 to Thomas Russell. Compared to other damages paid in the neighborhood, this was a large amount considering the size of the plot, but it probably ruined the location for a home. In December, Thomas sold to his brother David; 1848 to Israel Fletcher; 1867 heirs to Levi Burt the one-eighth of an acre west of the railroad "being same lot on which house in which Thomas Russell formerly lived stood." The house is not shown on the 1858 map, so it must have been gone before that.

This north part of the original lot is known as the Gates Lot.

The last remains of the cellarhole with its rose bushes were covered by the fill for the overpass.

276. FRANK KAY: According to the land records, Benjamin H. Floyd bought in 1798 40 acres of the west end of Lot #11 in 3rd Range from Stephen Holman, and 20 acres to the west from Benjamin Bellows. There are indications that he was here earlier. As early as 1800, he had a blacksmith shop on the west side of the road and north of the Genzer crossroad. His first house seems to have stood west of the shop, with a barn opposite on the south side of the road. Benjamin H. Floyd died in 1815. Floyd built the present house #276.

Mrs. Benjamin H. Floyd (Elizabeth) later married David Aldrich; 1863 to her daughter Eliza, who willed about 1887 to Joseph Schnepf, a German; 1888 to John Blanchard; 1907 to Charles E. Seward; 1928 the buildings and a small amount of land to William Earl Geoghegan of New York City; 1934 to Mary Hughes Geoghegan; 1934 to Clark A. and Emma L. Kathan.

In 1949 the Kathans sold a lot to Frank and Lura M. Kathan Kay south of the family home, where they built a house.

In 1936 Elmore Kathan (Joan E.) bought from Arthur H. Chickering Jr. 20 acres on the west side of the then Route 12, out of what had been Floyd land; 1952 to Earl and Elizabeth Kathan, who built a house; 1958 all but the house lot to Charles A. Blackwell. The house is now owned by Earl Kathan.

In 1960, after the death of Clark A. Kathan, the home place went to Frank and Lura Kay, with reservation of life use to Emma Kathan.

277. GENZER CELLARHOLE: In 1788 it was voted: "to open a road through Robert Wiers' (on Wentworth Road) to road by Samuel Wiers' " (River Road). There was no survey. In 1801 a road was laid from the (Old Settler Bookshop) south to (Kathan's), then westerly some 115 rods, then



southerly down over the bank to Houghton Brook to Lock's sawmill and gristmill, on the east line of the old Holmes farm. In 1817 the road was continued westerly along the top of the bank to the River Road. Near the west end of the road, the course has been completely washed out. On the north side of this old road, in the southeast corner of Sawyer's big field at the top of a sandbank, there is the old Genzer cellarhole, nicely walled. It is small, and lilacs grow nearby.

In 1800 John Martin bought 70 acres here. In 1815 he was living in a house on the north side of the crossroad, where the 1801 road turned down the bank, west of the Genzer cellarhole. His property included the mills on the brook, later Philip Lock's, then Samuel Martin's, and still later John Wiers' (gone by 1816). In 1815 Martin sold to Jonas Stickney; he to Adolphus Fletcher, who acquired a good part of the Martin holdings; 1819 to James Hooper; 1821 to John Dunshee; 1822 to Levi Lyman. The old Martin house was probably gone. In 1853 Lyman sold to Joseph and Francis Jonkers (or Zonkers or Zankers); 1855 to Lorenz Genzer (Frederika); 1896 widow made it over to the town for past and future support; 1897 to Jessie L. Chickering; 1900 to Lovisa J. Chickering; 1910 to Arthur H. Chickering; to Arthur Jr. as a part of the Holmes farm. The Genzer house was taken down and put up again in Westmoreland, then moved again when Rt. 12 was changed. It now stands east of Skunk's Misery on south side of highway.

278. DOG ISLAND: Benjamin Bellows sold 50 acres abutting the 3rd Range to Increase Blake in 1785 (Floyd owned property to the north then). He sold in 1807. In 1809, after belonging to Bellows & Grant, Archelaus Temple, and David Mack, half of the property came to Lemuel Blanchard; in 1814 Ebenezer Ash owned it; 1817 to Matthew Dickey; 1821 to John Messenger; 1821 to Stephen Britton Jr. It remained in the Britton family until Stephen G. sold it in 1854 to Joseph Sponsel; 1857 to John Sponsel (Magdalena); 1860 to Solon Chickering (Daphne); 1861 to Henry K. White (Rachel) of Westmoreland; 1864 to Warren Burr (Sarah); 1868 to Charles B. Hall; 1887 to Alma Hawks; 1908 her widower William to Everett L. Houghton, having removed to Kirkland, New York; 1908 to Margaret J. Aldham (Herbert); 1913 to William A. Miller of Orange, Mass.; 1914 to A. Foster Hamilton; 1915 to George W. Smith; 1921 to Horace Holbrook, reserving to Charles H. Slade the lumber (Tom Graves and Harold Elkins hauled the logs to Slade's Mill in winter of 1922); 1927 heirs of Holbrook to Arthur Chickering; 1955 to Samuel Jr. and Arthur Chickering as part of Holmes place on the River Road.



The buildings are all gone. The house, which had become dilapidated, was taken down and the good part used by Ruth Chickering Baldwin to build the house in Westmoreland near the depot.

The property was bought in 1956 by O. Tubio Giovannangeli and Stanley R. Payne, the gravel used for the new Rt. 12.

#### WENTWORTH ROAD (IN 1783 KNOWN AS QUEEN ANNE ROAD)

279. AGNES BUNKER—CELLARHOLE—LOT #4 IN 4TH RANGE: In 1773 Moses Brown, husbandman, for £80 sold to Benjamin Bellows the 53 acres on the east side of Wentworth Road, "land I now live on". The cellarhole and well are still here. This was willed to his daughter Abigail (married Hunt first, then Richardson—see *Bellows Gen.*, pp. 77-81). On the south side of this lot there was in 1781 a road from the meeting house to Wentworth Road. Theodore Bellows had that part of the lot on the west side of Wentworth Road.

280. AGNES BUNKER—LOT #5 IN 4TH RANGE: In 1773 John Marcy sold to Lt. Amos Babcock, "the lot Babcock now lives on with buildings and fences. . . ." 1783 Theodore Bellows, called by the family "Uncle Thod Lot". It was at one time proposed to build the town meeting house here. He sold to his brother John 1788 and removed to Charlestown. There may be a cellarhole but it has not been found.

Lot #2 in 3rd Range was probably part of the pasture Benjamin Bellows left to Theodore Bellows who sold to his brother John. John sold to his son Hubbard. Buffums bought at auction in 1836. No buildings ever.

281. S. TRAFFORD HICKS—LOT #3 IN 3RD RANGE: Abraham Smith had this lot very early, for in 1762 when Wentworth Road was laid out it was to run "Strait by the Rev. Mr. Leavitt's house and So where the road is now cut to Mr. Abraham Smith's, then as near the line of lots Between the third and fourth Range of Lotts as the Land will admit. . . ." Smith probably sold it to Lemuel Holmes before 1775. The north third of the lot he sold in 1775 to Jonathan Hall Jr. The south 70 acres Holmes sold in 1790 to Samuel Fuller; 1781 to John Bellows when he sold the farm across the road, probably with buildings, since he sold as a farm. John must have sold to Benjamin Bellows, reserving a strip along the road where his orchard was, and perhaps buildings; 1805 Benjamin sold to Levi Hooper and it remained in the family until Mrs. Franklin Dana Hooper sold in 1960 to S. Trafford Hicks.



Prof. Franklin W. Hooper was Director of Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences and the principal founder of Brooklyn Museum. Mrs. Hooper was an accomplished musician, active in the Woman's Suffrage Movement. They spent their summers here for 50 years, made great changes in the house. They built a sounding board and stage for concerts in the pines; also sponsored lyceum courses in the village.

Prof. Franklin W. Hooper built a new piazza on east and west sides of his cottage in 1911.

282. SEDLEY F. CAMPBELL—LOT #3 IN 3RD RANGE: When Lemuel Holmes owned this lot, he sold the north third in 1775 to Jonathan Hall Jr., who is said to have lived where the Campbell house is. This was known as the "Hall Lot"; 1807 to Henry Foster; 1882 to Hoopers; 1915 to Wesley C. Foster; 1927 to Raymond U. Bunker; 1928 to Willis C. Foster; 1932 eight acres to Charles A. and Sedley F. Campbell (father and son). There is no house shown here on any of the maps before Campbells owned, so whatever Hall had must have been gone long ago.

283. ELMER A. ROENTSCH—LOT #6 IN 4TH RANGE: Daniel Denison owned 1765. Prior to 1773 Nathan Delano and family lived in a mansion house on this farm. The house stood somewhere in the south part of the lot, probably where the Roentsch buildings now stand.

In 1779 Dr. Thomas Rogers bought the farm piece by piece from the various heirs for a total of £2812; 1781 to Samuel Fuller who sold to John Bellows four months later but stayed on the farm; 1805 to Levi Hooper with land on west side of highway.

Benjamin Floyd had a farm on north side of this lot prior to 1781; there might be cellarhole or foundations but none have been found. He was a blacksmith.

In 1911 Prof. Franklin W. Hooper started construction of what is now the Roentsch house, ran into financial difficulties. This is said to have been on the site of an early cottage of Ebenezer Wellington.

284. FRANK LEWIS—LOT #7 IN 4TH RANGE: Timothy Delano owned this lot prior to 1765 when he sold to Samuel Chase.

"Levi Hooper, the progenitor of the Hooper family in Walpole, was born in Bridgewater, Mass., in 1742. When quite young he went on a whaling voyage in Hudson's Bay and on his return enlisted as a soldier in the last French War, which ended in 1763. He enlisted for nine months, and when the time of enlistment had expired he was unable to get his pay unless he would stay three months longer. At the



expiration of the next three months he found himself no better off, when he and two other soldiers deserted and made for home, guided by blazed trees, till they arrived at Charlestown, No. 4, where they stopped for the night. The next day they reached Walpole and stopped in a log hut which stood on the west side of the road above the Hooper homestead . . . where the cidermill stood for many years. The soil and the heavy growth of timber pleased him so much that he was induced to return, after visiting his friends, and locate in town. He returned to Walpole in 1771, and soon after buried his wife, whose maiden name was Susanna Leach, and, the same year, married Sarah, the daughter of Jonathan Hall, by whom he had six children."

When he first came to town, he lived in a house in the northwest corner of Lot #8 in the 4th Range, in the southwest corner of the field opposite Ruby Wright's house. Benjamin Bellows owned the land, and not until 1780 did Hooper buy the two acres and then from Joseph Griswold. In January 1775 he bought from Samuel Chase for £160 lawful money Lot #7 in the 4th Range on which was then standing a mansion house and barn. It is not quite clear whether the house now on the place was there, or whether Levi Hooper built it. He lived here until he died in 1806; his wife died 1823 aged 81. "He was Second Lieutenant in a company of General Bellows' Regiment in Revolutionary times and afterward Captain. He was a man of resolute character, held many town offices, and accumulated a competency for old age."

His son James continued on the old homestead. "He had some aspirations in the military line, and was at one time captain of a company, and was ever after called Capt. Hooper. He was a member of the Legislature in 1830, and one of the selectmen of the town several years. He died May 1867." James was followed on the farm by his son William. "It is safe to say that no four sons belonging to one family, born in town, have been more pecuniarily successful, as farmers, than the four sons of Capt. James Hooper."

The place stayed in the Hooper family until Hooper heirs sold in 1918 to Gurnsey and Proctor of Keene; 1919 to Freeman J. Christian; 1927 to Peter O. Mitchell; 1936 to present owners.

285. CLARENCE P. MORRILL—LOT #4 IN 3RD RANGE: In 1772 Ebenezer Edson sold to Thomas Morehead (Muirhead) a four acre piece on the north side of the crossroad north of Ruby Wright's. Either he or John Gould of Salem erected a dwelling house here before September 1774. Levi Hooper bought the 90 acre lot and the house lot of Ebenezer Edson and sold both to Simeon Smith in September 1774; 1783 50 acres to Joel Smith; 1785 to David Hogg of Dunbarton; 1793 to James Kingsbury of



Alstead; to Levi Hooper three days later; to his son Salmon 1801. The part west of Rt. 12 Simeon Smith sold in 1775 to Simeon Smith Jr.

In 1849 Hooper heirs sold to Moses Wright; 1885 to Avery B. and Paulina Willson "promising full support to Moses and Fidelia Wright for their natural lives"; 1931 heirs to Richard C. Graves; 1958 to Harlan B. Ladd; 1961 to present owners.

286. RICHARD C. GRAVES: In 1958 Richard Graves completed a new house for himself at the edge of the woods northwest of his former home.

287. RUBY G. WRIGHT—LOT #5 IN 3RD RANGE: Jonathan Hall had this lot by 1775 from Benjamin Bellows, but no deed recorded until 1784 when he deeded to his son Abraham Hall 50 acres where Ruby Wright now lives, the land extending west to the height of land west of Rt. 12. He built Ruby Wright's house, and left Walpole about 1800, finally settling in Bath, New Hampshire. "He was the largest and most physically powerful man ever born in town. At the age of 60 his weight was 425 lbs. and when he went from place to place an ox cart was the vehicle." Elisha Hall, who married Philippi Smith in 1770, lived in the house Abraham built, and died without issue. "His brother Recompense occasionally visited him and would address someone in his presence thus: 'Here's Lisher and Philippi Smith haint a child in the world but I've got sons and darters'."

In 1806 Abraham Hall sold to Josiah Bellows 2nd; 1809 to Joseph Bellows Jr.; 1811 to James Hooper; 1837 to Curtis Stearns; 1870 to George Joslin, a grandson of Peter Joslin who lived on the old county road south of #8 School. He was a cattle and sheep dealer. When the Summit railroad cut was made, he and E. Holbrook Hartwell butchered and supplied meat to the men. He was burned out in Surry about 1870 and removed to Walpole.

In 1874 his son Frank went to Woodstock, Vt., returning in 1877 and buying his father's farm. He was a stock broker and removed in 1885 to St. Paul, Minn.; 1886 sold the farm to his mother. She died in 1887 and left the property to daughters Lizzie and Jessie; 1888 to Anna Watkins (Mrs. Sumner).

In 1919 Sumner Watkins sold to Mark A. Mills (Evelyn A.); 1920 to Robert Nelson Stone; 1934 his estate to Alfred L. and Ruby A. Gilbo. It now belongs to Ruby Gilbo Wright.

In 1774 Jonathan Hall had bought from Ebenezer Edson a sliver of two acres joining the northeast corner of his farm. This land had been



cut off from Edson's when the road was laid from here to the River Road. (This is interesting, since the road was not recorded until 1781. However, that year it was voted in town meeting to survey and record all the roads that had not been recorded previously.)

*AH* 309 says Ephraim Lane first lived "in a little house that once stood just north of" #287.

288. ARVER REALTY COMPANY—LOT #5 IN 3RD RANGE: The south part, 35 acres, of Lot #5 Jonathan Hall sold 1775 to his son Elisha. Elisha sold 10 acres where Rt. 12 crosses, including some of the brook, to Jonathan H. Chase and the rest (15 acres) to Henry Foster in 1813. Foster in 1822 gave to his son Levi this 15 acres on Wentworth Road, probably with buildings. Levi Foster sold in 1836 to Otis Ballou; 1846 to Horace Ross; 1847 to Diantha Ross; 1850 to George D. Paine; 1852 to Michael O'Leary; 1856 to Daniel Ross; 1860 to Calvin Graves whose widow Angie sold to John E. Heald; 1884 to Anson Burbee. There was a little house moved down from near the small brook to the north and placed a little south of the house on this place, about where the garage is now. Wallace and Inez Burbee lived in it. It was later moved and made the kitchen ell of the Eastman house. Perhaps this was the house shown on the 1858 map opposite the west end of the Hooper Road.

In 1919 John Wallace Burbee, heir to Anson Burbee, sold to Fred H. Atwood of Westminster, Vt.; 1919 to Alfred B. Eitapence of Wallingford, Vt.; 1921 to David H. Russell of Charlestown; 1926 to Ralph E. Proctor of Keene; 1927 to Herbert E. Wells; 1933 to his wife Flora; 1951 to James Ashley and Mabel M. Dunlap. He died 1958 and she sold February 1961 to Alfred Huey; April 1961 to Arver Realty Company, a road construction company, for the gravel. The house was gutted by fire while Huey owned.

289. FIVE CELLARHOLES—LOT #8 IN 4TH RANGE: It appears that Benoning Farnum had this lot in 1765, but didn't stay, for in 1774 Benjamin Bellows sold the north 50 acres of the lot to Joseph Griswold of Killingworth, Conn., "being land Levi Hooper now lives on". In 1777 Griswold bought the rest of the lot. He was a millwright and Daniel Griswold, to whom he sold a 20 acre piece at the east end of the lot, was a miller. By 1779 Joseph had built himself a house on the north side of the lot, probably in the point where the Hooper road now comes into Wentworth Road; 1781 to John Bellows; 1783 to John Moor; 1790 to William Moore "excepting two acres where Capt. Hooper's house stands"; 1792 to Henry Foster.



Henry Foster "attended the Academy at Exeter, New Hampshire, for a season, after which he came from Nelson to this town, about 1790, to engage in teaching school. Susannah, daughter of Capt. Levi Hooper, was one of his pupils, of whom he became enamored, and afterwards married, May 24, 1792. His marriage induced him to buy a farm in the neighborhood of his father-in-law, where he remained during life. He taught school several winters after his marriage. Although bred in the severe orthodoxy of his day, in his mature years he took a wide departure from the teachings of his father, and nothing delighted him more than a discussion on religious topics with his townsmen, he always taking the most extreme opposite views from the religious conventionalities of the day. He preferred Blackstone to theology, and acquired a better knowledge of the law than many of his contemporary practitioners. He was also a diligent student in science, and, being far in advance of his neighbors in knowledge, and of decided opinions of his own, he was not so popular as he might otherwise have been with many of his townsmen; still his weight of character had a potent sway, and everybody feared his criticisms. He held the office of deputy sheriff many years, was selectman one year, and for some time justice of the peace."

He lived in the house in the point between the roads. When the Hooper Road was laid, it began near the south end of his house on Wentworth Road. His father-in-law's original house was a few rods to the north within the bounds of Lot #8. In 1842 the Foster house seems to have belonged to James Hooper; then to John G. and Ebenezer W. Titus, John G. living here. They were great-grandsons of Sylvanus Titus. Ebenezer had evidently died prior to 1864 when Sophronia and Henry A., of Rockingham, Vt., sold their interest to John G. Titus. The house finally fell down. Apparently Henry Foster built himself another house on the southeast side of the road, nearest Wentworth Road, probably the Kirkpatrick house in 1858, which went with what is now the Holmes farm. Next east on the southeast side of the road, next to Hooper's line, was the Henry Fitch place, a half-acre lot. Fitch, moving to Rutland, sold in 1837 to Henry Foster; 1853 his estate to Frederick Wier; 1856 to Benjamin Bixby; 1866 Bixby heirs to Robert Kirkpatrick, who owned the Foster farm. There was no mention of buildings.

Adjacent to the Fitch lot, but taken out of the next lot north, was the Charles Chaffin place. Chaffin sold in 1838 to Frederick Wier. In 1855 it belonged to Samuel G. Spear (related to Bixby). Mrs. Weymouth remembered two white houses here, probably the Kirkpatrick and Bixby houses. They were tenant houses and belonged to Henry Graves. They were both struck by lightning the spring of 1888, as was the church in Westminster. It was a terrible storm. Farmers on the hills could look off and see several fires at the same time. These three houses are all gone now, only the lilacs along the road left to mark the site. The cellarholes are filled in,



and the land is all neatly tillable with the old garden spots still producing purslane.

In 1809 Henry Foster sold a piece opposite Allen Holmes' house for a school house for District No. 9.

The Foster farm was added to the Graves farm next south and now belongs to Allen Holmes.

290. ALDRICH, ARMSTRONG, WRIGHT: When Josiah H. Graves sold the farm to the south (Holmes farm), he reserved two acres between the Hooper Road and Wentworth Road; 1937 sold to Alfred L. and Ruby A. Gilbo; 1954 to present owners who built a house on the site of an old barn that was once on this land.

About 1850 there was a shoe shop here on the Henry Foster farm. On the south side of the Mill Crossroad to Rt. 12, west of Great Brook, there is a farm road leading to a large field on an upper level. Along the bank at the east end of this field, where it drops down toward the brook, one may still find foundations of the buildings where a colony of negroes lived. They are said to have worked in the shoe shop and are listed in the 1850 census.

291. G. ALLEN HOLMES—LOT #9 IN 4TH RANGE, LOT #6 IN 3RD RANGE: John Graves, Jr. (Lt., Squire) bought the west half of Lot #9 in the 4th Range and the east half of Lot #6 in the 3rd Range from his father in 1771, and in 1773 the west half of Lot #6. He gave 35 acres of the latter to his son Samuel in 1793. He also owned the north half of Lot #10 in the 4th Range which he gave to his son Darius. It was John Graves Jr. who represented Walpole in the Vermont Assembly during the Vermont Controversy.

In 1808 Lydia Graves sold the farm to Sterling Graves, son of Eliphas. His youngest son, Charles Henry, had the farm. Josiah H., son of Charles Henry, had the farm from his mother in 1904; 1917 to Arthur H. Chickering; 1917 to Edward E. Atkins; 1923 to Michael Butterfield of Rindge (Bessie T.); 1945 to G. Allen and Virginia Perkins Holmes.

292. G. ALLEN HOLMES—LOT #6, 3RD RANGE—CELLARHOLE ON WEST SIDE OF WENTWORTH ROAD OPPOSITE WARN'S: In 1810 Amos Graves had a house here 10 rods from the road. At that time Asa Titus reserved to himself use of water in the brook for a carding machine. In 1814 Amos Graves sold the property on both sides of the road to Asa Titus; 1814 his estate to Aden Henry, "being same on which said Asa Titus lived at time of his decease; bounded east by road leading from Walpole to Westmoreland;



north, south and west by Sterling Graves, 4 acres, including mills with the four machines for dressing cloth"; 1823 to Joshua Buzzell (Buswell, wife was Lurene) of Derby, Vt.; 1825 by virtue of a judgment to Frederick Buzwell of Enfield, Conn., stage driver. As agent, Ruggles Watkins inserted the following ad in the *Cheshire Gazette*: "Ruggles Watkins has for sale stand for a clothier and carding wool on a good stream, about 1½ miles south of Walpole Village, about four acres with good dwelling house, barn, clothier's shop with convenient room for a carding machine, and has been a place of great business in the life-time of its former owner. A quantity of machinery suitable for carrying on the cloth dressing." In 1826 sold to Bradford Brown of Westmoreland; 1826 mortgaged to Stephen Rowe Bradley; 1830 assigned to Ruggles Watkins; 1831 sold to Ira Haskell; 1837 to Edwin Hall; to Susan Hall; 1842 to Ira Haskell then of Greenwich, Mass., "together with buildings", but no mention of machinery; same day to Selah M. Hall of Walpole; 1848, he, then of Waltham, Mass., to George D. Paine; 1852 estate to Michael O'Leary (Rebecca) of Rockingham, Vt.; 1856 to Josiah W. Batchelder (Almira); 1860 to Gardner Tower of Westminster (wife, May A.); 1862 to Charles H. Graves, land and buildings, thus becoming a part of the Graves farm now owned by G. Allen Holmes. There is also supposed to have been iron-works here and a flour mill run by an undershot waterwheel.

South of the brook, next north of the Griswold farm (now Blake), was a 20 acre lot that John Graves of Troy, New York, inherited from his grandfather, John Graves. He sold in 1807 to Sterling Graves, and there was at that time a house on the premises.

293. RICHARD WARN—LOT #9 IN 4TH RANGE: This was a part of John Graves Jr.'s farm and, after various intra-family transactions, came in 1814 to his daughter and her husband, Rebecca and Asa Titus. They seem to have lived on the west side of the road first, but perhaps after his death she lived on the east side of the road. He died 1823, she about 1876. Her heirs sold 1876 to Charlotte B. Murdough; 1879 to Emily, wife of John W. Hodskins; 1889 to Charles F. Gould; 1891 to Olive S. Hatch; 1893 to Fred Carr; John Selkirk foreclosed the mortgage and sold 1901 to Hyland J. Brown; 1904 estate to William Wallace Warn Jr.; 1946 to Benjamin E. Warn; 1949 to present owners.

294. MRS. WILLIAM EASTMAN—LOT #9 IN 4TH RANGE ON LAWRENCE GRAVES CROSSROAD: In 1771 John Graves set off to John Graves Jr. the west half of Lot #9 in the 4th Range. In 1801 this 16 acres on the north side of



the crossroad was set off to Darius Graves from his brother Allen's estate; 1804 to Darius Jr.; 1807 to Justin Hinds; 1810 to Eleazer Crane; 1810 to Henry Foster; 1815 to Recompense Hall (only five acres by highway); 1816 Hall to William Farnum; 1819 to Jesseniah Kittredge; 1832 to Calvin Graves; 1883 to George H. Graves; 1915 to Eli W. Graves; 1920 to Hubert A. Willson (father of Mrs. Tom Graves). Josiah Graves foreclosed mortgage and sold in 1929 to William F. Eastman, a broker from Brooklyn, New York, whose wife was Rebecca Hooper. She died and he married again.

295. LAWRENCE GRAVES—LOT #9, 4TH RANGE, OUT OF EAST HALF: In 1818 John Graves sold  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre to Thomas Russell, Jr., land and buildings, who sold to Franklin Flint, yeoman. (A connection of Mrs. Thomas Russell? She was a Flint, and they had a son Franklin Flint Russell.)

In 1819 Robert Gilchrist (Chloe) bought the property and mortgaged it to Elizabeth Flint of Westmoreland. In 1834 Elizabeth sold to George Flint. In 1839 Josiah Bellows 3rd foreclosed a mortgage and his daughter, Sarah Hibbard, sold 1855 to Charles Lawrence (Lydia); 1865 to Andrew Weber; 1890 his guardian to Fred A. Hatch; 1894 to Rollin Carl; 1898 to Arthur F. Joslyn; 1925 he then of Willington, Conn., to Stuart Graves who lived here until he took over his father's farm; 1943 to his brother Lawrence W. Graves.

296. JOEL CHAFFIN FARM SOUTH SIDE LAWRENCE GRAVES CROSSROAD—LOT #10 IN 4TH RANGE: In 1770 Ebenezer Bartlett bought from Robert Wier the north half of Lot #10 in 4th Range, 35 acres, east side of Wentworth Road, except for the 30 acre piece Wier reserved on the east end of the lot. In 1778 John Graves Jr. bought and gave in 1793 to his son Darius.

The east 30 acres Nicholas Patterson of Harvard, Mass., who probably had it from Robert Wier, sold in 1779 to Sylvanus Titus; 1797 to Joel Chaffin. In 1799 Chaffin sold the Sally Lawrence place on Prospect Hill and bought from Darius Graves the west 35 acres above. From road records we infer that he lived near the west end of the farm; 1809 he sold the east part of the farm (the Titus land,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  acres) to John Graves.

March 7, 1828, the following ad appeared in the *Museum*: "Joel Chaffin offering his farm for sale  $11\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of the new meeting house, 40-50 acres, buildings, orchard." Apparently Chaffin paid off the first mortgage he gave to James Hooper, but must have renewed it, for in 1833 James Hooper sold to Levi H. Foster for \$1200 "being same premises conveyed to me by Joel Chaffin's mortgage." Chaffin died April 2, 1829; his wife



Olive, November 21, 1843. He was a carpenter, 65 years of age at his death. (See *AH* 228-9.) This land is now owned by Harold Foster.

297. WALTER BLAKE—LOT #7 IN 3RD RANGE: In 1770 Edmund Lawrence sold this 100 acre lot (87 rods on the road, 180 rods deep) to William Ritter, cordwainer, for £50; September 3, 1774, to Benjamin Bellows Jr. for £65 "with all improvements thereon". Oddly enough April 26, 1774, Benjamin Bellows sold this same lot to Josiah Griswold of Killingworth, Conn. for £82. He probably built the present Blake house near the south line of the lot. In 1817 he sold to his son Willard who promised to take care of his father and mother. Willard bought his brother Daniel's share for \$500 and his brother Hubbard's share by paying him in installments and promising to give him some schooling and a home until he came of age. He paid \$2600 for the farm.

The farm was mortgaged to Stephen Rowe Bradley, James Ingalls living here for a time; 1826 Bradley sold to Levi H. Foster; 1847 to George Watkins 2nd; 1887 his heirs to Curtis R. Crowell and John C. Brown, buying to cut off wood and timber; 1889 to Charles Harmon Watkins, reserving timber; 1895 to Norman E. Watkins; 1898 Savings Bank foreclosed; 1899 to George B. Tiffany; 1899 to Marvin R. Booth; 1910 to Harry R. Morrison and then to George B. and Harrie Tiffany; 1918 George sold his interest to Harrie Tiffany; 1948 to present owners.

In 1782 Josiah Griswold sold the north 20 acres of the lot to John McFarland, with a house standing thereon. Did Griswold first build a house here, then the Blake house in which he was living in 1782? In 1790 he bought back the 20 acres and we know nothing more of McFarland or the house.

298. SMEED-DENISON-WATKINS—LOT #8 IN 3RD RANGE: William Smeed owned all the way from the Connecticut River to Wentworth Road, including this lot which he sold in 1773 (he being then in Windsor, N. Y.) to Samuel Ashley of Winchester, N. H., for £58; in 1782 to John Denison for £270. It would appear that he may have made some improvements, although none are mentioned. In 1790 or 1791 John Denison died, leaving Lucy with five children under 13 years of age. She sold the west 40 acres of the lot for £100 to settle her husband's debts.

Apparently she and the children stayed on the farm at least until they were grown. In 1815 Lucy and son Ziba sold the farm to William Watkins for \$1000. The Denison homestead stood near the south side of Lot #8. If one goes into the woods at the point where the old road comes into



the new and walks west, the cellarhole will be on the left a short distance into the woods. The well is west of the house.

William Watkins (Olive Shattuck) must have been about 70 years old when he died about 1826, leaving his wife with four minor children. On April 18, 1827, 19 acres of the farm and two-thirds of the barn were sold at public auction to Charles Titus. Mrs. Watkins was apparently left with the house, a share in the barn, and the land next to the road. It has all reverted to woods now.

How long Mrs. Watkins stayed here or what became of the house, we do not know. In 1832 she was listed as "occupying land" here, and in 1834 only as owning land. Watkins heirs sold in 1862 to Gardner Hall and it remained a part of the Russell-Hall-Gilson place on Rt. 12 until recently when Arthur Chickering Jr. retained ownership.

299. HAROLD FOSTER—LOT #11 IN 4TH RANGE: This property includes two farms, both on the east side of the road, brought together in 1859 by Caleb Foster. Apparently Nathan Delano had both from Benjamin Bellows, although there was some question of title. Twenty (20) acres of the south side of the lot were bought from Delano by Aquila Russell in 1772. Twenty-five (25) acres of the north side of Lot #12 in the 4th Range were bought by Aquila Russell from James Russell in 1773. Aquila sold in 1777 to Aaron Graves. The property went to his son Samuel, then to his grandson Aaron M. Graves in 1837.

Roland Hall probably had a blacksmith shop on the west side of Wentworth Road opposite the Graves place in 1778. In 1797 Samuel Taylor sold it to Samuel Graves and it thereafter went with the farm. There was an Aaron Graves who was a blacksmith. (See *AH* 263-4 for Aaron Graves.) His son Aaron Jr. settled in Walpole Valley near the Dodge Tavern.

300. TITUS CELLARHOLE—HAROLD FOSTER—LOT #11 IN 4TH RANGE: The north farm of 50 acres included the rest of #11 after the 20 acres were taken from the south side, and 30 acres from the east end. Nathan Delano sold this to Lemuel Sargent in January 1777; to Sylvanus Titus in February. In 1797 Titus paid Benjamin Bellows Jr. 5 shillings to clear his title. The house stood in the field between the old and new roads. In 1833 the stock and tools were listed as 1 mare and colt, 1 yearling heifer, 5 calves, 1 plough, 1 harrow, 2-horse wagon, 3 chains, 4 sets horse harnesses, 1 caldron kettle, 1 iron bar, 1 swine. His son, Sylvanus J. Titus, was living here in 1833; 1835 to Francis L. Snow for \$1300. It would appear that the buildings burned while Snow was here, for in 1838 he sold to Samuel W. Griffin for \$263.18. While Griffin was here in 1848, the



new road around the hill was laid out. He probably rebuilt, for in 1849 he sold to Frederick Watkins for \$903.26; 1850 to Caleb Foster for \$1500. Foster was still here in 1858. In 1859 he bought also the Aaron M. Graves farm to the south, where Harold Foster now lives.

301. CHARLES A. BLACKWELL—LOT #12 IN 4TH RANGE: James Russell had three sons, Thomas, Aquila and Jeduthan. Sometime prior to 1773 James bought this lot from Benjamin Bellows. The north part, where the Foster buildings are, he sold to his son Aquila. The south part his son Jeduthan was occupying in 1774. Both sons married daughters of William Glazier who lived on the farm next south. Aquila sold out here in 1777. In 1774 James sold the part where Jeduthan lived to Nathan Watkins of Ashford, Conn.; 1777 to Peletiah Hall of Dorchester, Mass., a potter, who had two sons who came with him: Peletiah Jr., a cordwainer; and Roland, a blacksmith. They seem to have lived on the farm, owning in various combinations. In 1788 Roland sold the whole farm to Stephen Hall of Boston; 1797 to David Adams of Newbury, Mass.; 1799 to Amos Phillips of Bellingham, Mass. He married the widow of Aaron Allen Jr., daughter of Samuel Salter who had the place next south. In 1826 he lost the place through a mortgage foreclosure to Elisha and James Hooper; 1830 to James Hooper Jr.; 1843 to William Watkins (Susan Royce); 1859 to S. (Stephen) Johnson Tiffany (see *AH* 368-9), followed by his son George B.; 1940 to the present owners. The three barns burned Oct. 30, 1914.

302. BLACKWELL TENANT FARM—LOT #12 IN 4TH RANGE: In 1776 Benjamin Bellows sold to Elisha Fullam of Ashburnham, Mass., 70 acres, the south part of Lot #12 in the 4th Range. William Glazier was then living on this tract and deeds for abutting land indicate that he owned it. Probably he had a contract with Bellows and was unable to fulfill it to the letter. He also owned land next east which was not included in this purchase but which Fullam acquired before he sold in 1787 to Jacob Fullam of Leominster, Mass. Elisha Fullam had removed to Canandaigua, N. Y., by 1802. Jacob Fullam sold in 1788 to Samuel Salter who, in 1791, also bought 12¾ acres next south along the road from Benjamin Floyd; 1805 to Aaron Allen Jr. who had married Salter's daughter Catherine. He died September 15, 1815, from lockjaw, resulting from the kick of a vicious horse, leaving a widow and seven children, the oldest 14 and the youngest two. The widow later married a neighbor, Amos Phillips.

Her son John Allen had the farm, dying in 1850 and leaving a widow Mary who had an undivided third of the farm. Their son, Hubbard, had



the place from 1863 to 1866 when he sold to his sister Mary's husband, Cyrus Church, of Boston. Church's second wife, Amelia K., left it to her brother, Thomas H. Kilby; 1923 to Arthur H. Chickering; 1925 to Elwin C. Clough; 1932 to Jesse and Erdine Laurie; 1939 to present owner, Charles A. Blackwell.

There are three cellarholes on the old crossroad leading from Wentworth Road to the County Road by the Kilby place. On the north side of the road Orrick and Lucinda Look had a place in 1843, shown on the 1858 map.

The other two cellarholes are on the south side of the road, one about opposite the Look cellarhole near the west end of the discontinued portion of the road; the other to the east, near the east edge of the woods. William and Martha C. Farnham owned property on the south side of the road in 1856. The records are sketchy.

**LOT #9 IN 3RD RANGE:** According to the early map of Walpole, the lines between the lots in these ranges were east and west. Down to this point in the third range they were, but the south line of this lot, and the dividing lines of the lots to the south, are West 12 degrees North, parallel with the town line. Isaac Stowel (Stoel) had this lot from Benjamin Bellows, and sold most of it in 1774 to Nathan Watkins, who owned the farm on the east side of the road. There is no mention of buildings. The lot became a part of the Hall Farm and now belongs to Blackwell.

**303. CHARLES A. BLACKWELL—LOT #10 IN 3RD RANGE:** In 1778 Benjamin Bellows sold this 100 acre lot to Samuel Nichols. There is evidence that Benjamin Floyd had this lot in 1773 and 1775, and that he had made improvements, including buildings, near the southeast corner, perhaps on the 4 acres Nichols sold to Robert Wier in 1778. In 1781 Nichols sold to David Quinton, Chester, New Hampshire. He was one of Robert Wier's cronies, along with the Halls, according to AH. By 1802 Quinton had died, and his widow, Margaret, sold to Amos Phillips for \$300; 1803 to Calvin Blake; 1807 to Silas Angier, Jr.; 1813 to Aaron Allen who already had the Salter place on the east side of the road. Somewhere between here and the next place south there was a cider mill at this time. The old house had stood near the southeast corner of the lot. Allen built a new house but before he occupied it he died of lockjaw. Ziba Denison bought the place at auction Oct. 21, 1815, but sold the following January. Henry Prentice Foster bought it in the spring and it remained in the Foster family until Willis C. sold in 1916 to Royal S. Wentworth of



Chelsea, Mass.; 1917 to Earl A. Howe; July 30, 1918 to Joseph B. Gray, who sold November 4th to George B. Tiffany. The buildings burned August 14, 1918. The property now belongs with the Blackwell farm.

304. CHARLES A. BLACKWELL: In 1917 Wentworth sold the northeast corner to Elizabeth N. Graves. The house on this land was built by the Fosters.

Just north of this house stood the schoolhouse for District No. 10, the land deeded to the town in 1876 by S. Johnson Tiffany. The building was used for a community house of this district after school was no longer held here. It was bought by Blackwell in 1941 and has since burned.

305. ARTHUR H. BUNKER—LOT #13 IN 4TH RANGE: In 1772 this lot of 75 acres appears to have belonged to John French, but in 1773 Benjamin Bellows sold to John Marcy and Ebenezer Swan, traders; 1774 to Ebenezer Bartlett 3rd of Guilford, Conn., who settled on the place; April 10, 1778 to Robert Wier. The east part of the lot James Patterson of Fitchburg, Mass., bought from the Bellows estate April 11, 1778, and sold the same day to Robert Wier.

Robert Wier, gentleman, from Jaffrey, N. H., bought up a total of 650 acres in this area. According to *AH* 302-3, he settled on this place and kept a public house. "He was a man of good natural abilities, but set the laws and customs of society wholly aside. He was convivial in his habits and his house was the rendezvous of men of his own stamp. Three of his guests are remembered,—Roll (Roland) Hall, Pel (Peletiah) Hall and David Quinton, who when together, were as happy as flip could make them."

Apparently business wasn't as profitable as need be to keep him solvent. In June 1788 he borrowed £600 from Jonas Minot of Concord, Mass. On Oct. 18, 1788, he borrowed £800 from Oliver Smith, an apothecary of Boston. Putting up his farm as security he lost it and in 1792 signed it over to Smith.

*AH* lists no family for him. He had a wife Sarah. His name disappears from the records after he lost the farm.

Down to the north line of this lot the lines between the lots in the 4th Range were perpendicular to Wentworth Road. The south line of this lot, which was about 35 rods south of Houghton Brook, ran East 12° S.

In 1798 Smith's heirs sold that part of the lot north of the brook to Stephen Holman, who had previously owned the land south of the brook. Probably Holman had this earlier, for in the *Museum* Dec. 4, 1797, he advertised his "223 acres three miles south of the street—dwelling house, 3 barns, other buildings."



Holman sold in 1800 first to Danforth Clark and Asahel Goodridge; then to Jacob Kiblinger of Ashburnham, Mass; 1806 to Amos Flint.

Up to this time the farm had included also the land on the west side of the road. In 1810 Amos Flint sold the land west of the road, but reserved a small piece on the northwest corner at the junction of the Seward and Wentworth Roads. In 1812 he sold to Alfred Flint the land on the east side of the road; 1816 to Elisha Hooper, son of Levi. In 1850 Elisha sold to his son John Hooper; 1862 to his brother-in-law Lyman Houghton, who then lived in the next house south; 1865 other heirs to John L. Houghton; 1884 to Frank A. Seward; 1946 his son Homer C. Seward to Mary B. Peabody; 1953 to Arthur Bunker.

In the northwest corner of the lot Noah Smith of Brattleboro sold  $12\frac{3}{4}$  acres to Benjamin Floyd in 1791; he sold 1791 to Samuel Salter. It was a part of the third set off to Aaron Allen Jr.'s widow. At some time an acre in the southwest corner of this piece was sold and in 1853 Alexander and Julia Milliken sold it to Amos Davis; in 1861 Davis lost the land to Cyrus Church.

On the 1858 map, there was a house next south of Davis owned by Henry P. Foster, which in 1853 had belonged to Levi Russell and was later absorbed into the farm to the south. These two houses have been gone a long time.

306. JUSTINE S. LOEHR—LOT #14 IN 4TH RANGE: January 10, 1772, Benjamin Bellows sold to Isaac Gibson (Abigail) of Fitchburg, Mass., yeoman, 100 acres (200 rod x 80 rod); September 10, 1773, to Isaiah (Lt. Josiah) Witt of Fitchburg. Some improvements may have been made. Witt also had 50 acres on the west side of the road, southeast corner of Lot #11 in 3rd Range, but he apparently was unable to hold it for in 1778 Benjamin Bellows sold it to Robert Wier. Witt sold the 100 acres on the east side of the road to Elisha Fullam, who sold to Robert Wier. This land was included in the property Wier surrendered to Oliver Smith in 1792.

In 1794 Smith sold all he owned south of the second brook to Stephen Holman; November of same year to Abel Boardman Buzzell all the property on both sides of the road from the brook south to the Rapids Road on the east and William Wier's land on the west side; during the following winter to Thomas C. Drew; 1796 to Joab Pond of Castleton, Vt.; soon to Asahel Goodridge of Middletown, Mass.; 1800 a half interest to Thomas Goodridge; 1801 they sold 100 acres on the east side of the road to Mrs. Elizabeth Dickinson of Ashburnham, Mass., excluding a small plot south of the brook near the road. In 1811 she, then a widow,



sold the property to Abel Dickinson, her son. It is probable that up to the time Mrs. Dickinson bought, the owner lived on the west side of the road opposite the Rapids Road. Probably she built a new house on her land on the east side of the road, quite likely the Loehr house.

After Abel Dickinson died, his widow Juliet married their neighbor David Clark. They lived here (he sold his place 1825); 1834 to Chester Wire (Wier) Jr.; 1836 to James Hooper Jr.; the next spring to William Farnam Jr. (probably the same one who sold his house on the Blackwell crossroad); 1839 to George Hooper of Putney, Vt.; 1845 to Lyman Houghton; 1898 other heirs to Mary E. Houghton; 1919 to Josiah H. Graves and Clarence Houghton; two months later 30 acres, including the buildings, to Homer L. Atkins; 1922 to Reginald R. Thomas 1925; to Horace H. Hall; 1935 to Justine S. Loehr of Jamaica Plains, Mass., only the house and lot.

307. ARTHUR BUNKER—CELLARHOLE—LOT #14 IN 4TH RANGE: When the Goodridges sold to Mrs. Dickinson, they reserved two acres near the brook. This land was probably in Lot #13, but after Wier's ownership the brook became the dividing line; 1802 to Jacob Kiblinger; 1804 to Levi Hooper, then to Elisha Hooper; 1814 this and other land to Jonathan Hale Chase. His business is discussed in connection with Lot #11 in 3rd Range, but the house which he probably built, and where he lived, was on the east side of the road south of the book.

April 17, 1837, Chase sold to Lyman Houghton of Lunenburg, Mass. 11 acres of land on the east side of the road "also the privilege of supporting a dam and turning the water conveyed to me by Elisha Hooper's deed May 8, 1822"; all but one acre of the land in Lot #11 in 3rd Range south of the brook. Houghton farmed and ran a sawmill on the brook.

The old Chase house where Houghton had been living burned about 1845, for March 10, 1845, he bought the next place south, as noted above, and lived there the rest of his life. The land near the brook now belongs to Arthur Bunker.

308. LOT #11 IN 3RD RANGE: In 1775 Benjamin Bellows sold this 100 acres to Ebenezer Bartlett, husbandman, who already owned land on the east side of the road. This lot is extra long, 214 rods; 1778 to Robert Wier.

The part of the lot north of the brook, containing 50 acres, belonged to the farm on the east side of the road until 1810, when Amos Flint sold to John Brooks Clark of Concord, Mass.; 1817 to Elisha Hooper; 1818 to Levi Hall; 1846 to his son Jacob Foster; 1849 to his brother William; 1892 to his step-son Charles E. Seward; 1923 to Elwin C. Clough; 1936 to



Homer C. Seward; 1952 to Edward Pickering; 1958 to Jesse D. Pickering Jr.

On the northwest corner at the junction of the Seward and Wentworth Road there was a small piece which Amos Flint sold to Alfred Flint in 1812 along with the farm on the east side of the road. There was supposedly a house there at one time.

Probably John Brooks Clark built the farmhouse on the Seward farm about 1810, since prior to that time the land had been a part of the farm across the Wentworth Road.

Just to the west of the farmhouse is a small house which Homer Seward reserved with some land and barn on the opposite side of the crossroad when he sold to Edward Pickering. The Swards live here.

309. CELLARHOLES—LOT #11 IN 3RD RANGE: That part of this lot south of the brook had the same owners as #14 in the 4th Range up to 1801, except for the southeast 50 acres. That had belonged first to Isaiah Witt, but apparently he did not fulfill the letter of his contract, for in 1778 Benjamin Bellows sold to Robert Wier "land that Artemas Witt lived on." Robert Wier built a house here opposite the Rapids Road in 1785. In 1794 William Buzzell lived here; in 1796, Joab Pond. In 1801 it was referred to as "the old Wire house." We find no further mention of it.

In 1802 the Goodridges sold the lot south of the brook and two acres on the east side of the road near the brook to Jacob Kiblinger; 1804 to Levi Hooper, then to Elisha; 1814 to Jonathan Chase.

In 1822 Chase bought more land along the south side of the brook on the east side of the road and the privilege of building a dam 118 rods up the brook from where it crossed the road.

He had formerly been at Lane's Mills on Rt. 12. He "commenced the tanning business; and not finding a local sale for all his leather, he conceived the idea of manufacturing 'brogans', thus using his surplus leather. At the outset the business was conducted in a small way, the work then being all sewed; by which it may be inferred that pegged shoes and boots did not obtain at that time. Mr. Chase's shoes were consigned to his brother-in-law J. B. Kimball of Boston, who was of the firm of J. B. Kimball & Co., and sold on commission. It was not long before pegged work came into general use, when the business was prosecuted with energy, employing a large number of workmen in town and out." (AH 90)

Jonathan Chase's son Charles had a fair-sized house and barn, which he probably built, on the west side of the road close to the south side of the brook. The shoeshop stood on Jonathan Chase's land just south of this house. The tannery was on the east side of the highway. In April 1832 the Chases sold Charles' house, the shoeshop and the tannery to John Allen;



in the fall, a half interest to James White; in 1843 that on the west side of the highway to Gaius Hall; in 1845 the tannery on the east side to George Huntington. The former piece Nathan Paul bought in 1848; the latter 1853. Paul lived here on the west side of the road until 1858 when he sold to Lyman Houghton and it was again joined to the farm from which it had been taken.

Jonathan Chase purchased the old Johnson tavern and store and moved his family to the village. With his sons Charles E. and Aaron K., he continued the business for several years.

The place at the south end of town remained in the Houghton family—Lyman, Edward, Charles W., and finally Clarence, who sold in 1915 to Ira A. and Florence T. Hitchcock. The buildings burned about 1918. Nothing remains, not even a cellarhole. In 1919 the Hitchcocks sold to Charles E. Seward who sold in conjunction with #308, q.v. Edward Pickering sold off a great deal of gravel from this location.

310. FELIX E. ALDRICH SR.—LOT #12 IN 3RD RANGE: In 1770 Joseph Barrett seemed to own at least the east end of this lot, but on April 20, 1772, Benjamin Bellows sold this 100 acre lot (80 x 100 rods) to John Marcy; October 8, 1772, he sold the same lot to James Richardson of Leominster, Mass.; 1778 Richardson, then of Dover, to Robert Wier for £540, so it would appear he had made some improvements. Wier lost the place, with the rest of his holdings, but in 1790 Oliver Smith deeded to him 100 acres here for 5 shillings and the same day Robert Wier sold to John Wier of Hampstead. At that time there were buildings on the place. In 1794 John sold to William Wier the north 50 acres, and to Samuel Wier the south 50 acres, who sold this land in 1796 to William Wier; 1798 to his brother-in-law Danforth Clark from Sturbridge, Mass. William Wier moved to Vermont where he ran a gristmill. "There was an incompatibility of feeling between him and his wife, she tantalizing him to such an extent that he ducked her in the mill-pond, when she left and he subsequently married again." Danforth Clark sold the farm in 1835 and removed to Chesterfield, but remained there only a few years. He then removed to Bethel, Vt., and lived there until he died at an advanced age. "He was a shoemaker by trade and when not engaged on his farm he utilized his time in making boots and shoes for his neighbors. He did but very little after pegged work became the fashion."

John Allen and Silas Angier bought the farm from Clark; 1839 to Amos Wood; 1871 to Henry E. Houghton; 1909 heirs to William Mathers



who, with John Prentiss and Harry M. Wilder, cut the timber; 1928 to Elwin C. Clough; 1931 to Elsie E. Barkley of Bristol, Conn.

After Henry Houghton's death the farm had been broken up, but was brought back together again by Leonard B. and Gertrude S. Stone who bought in 1935 and 1936; 1939 to Mary H. Aldrich, daughter of Henry Houghton; 1954 to Felix E. Aldrich; 1955 the land to George R. Graves, Aldrich retaining the house and lot. The old house burned Feb. 15, 1911.

311. GEORGE R. GRAVES: LOT #12 IN 3RD RANGE: This was part of the Danforth Clark farm. At this point Wentworth Road does not follow the line between the ranges, but bears southwest across #12 in the 3rd Range, so that this place is on the east side of the road even though it is in the 3rd Range.

Danforth Clark in 1819 sold two acres here to his son David; 1825 to his brother Loran. In 1835 his father deeded to him the land on the west side of the road occupied by the blacksmith and wheelwright shop. Apparently he deeded the property back to his father who sold in 1846 to David Russell, and he to Thomas Russell; 1867 to Ella A. Russell. These latter deeds include only the land on the east side of the road.

In 1872 Ella and her husband Josiah Q. Russell of Springfield, Vt., sold to George Short; 1875 to George A. Wheeler of Weston, Vt.; 1878 to Charles F. Wheeler, who died 1922; George A. inherited from his brother Charles F. The daughter of George A., Della R. Davis, sold in 1926 to Eli Seney; 1956 to George R. Graves.

312. MARY FRANCES FOSTER—LOT #15 IN 4TH RANGE: On January 10, 1770, Benjamin Bellows sold to Abel Levans (Levings) the south 50 acres in this lot, along the south line of the town. He may have settled here but nothing is known of him. He died prior to March 14, 1795, leaving three children: Abel and Rebekah (Wellington) of Johnson's Gore, Vt., and Noah. The former sold their share to Samuel Wier; the latter to Stephen Holman. It became a part of the Danforth Clark farm.

May 6, 1797, Benjamin Bellows sold to Jonathan Livingston, blacksmith, 20 acres out of the north part of this lot. He also bought additional land from Danforth Clark.

Livingston's house stood east of the present house, an orchard here about 1880. He later moved to the village, then returned here, continuing the occupation he had begun in the village about 1816, that of making steel traps for Bellows & Stone. "He was a man of much individuality of character and many of his quaint sayings are remembered and repeated.



His wife was endowed with superior qualities of mind and heart, and possessed a great force of character." (*AH* 314)

In 1831 Jonathan Livingston sold his place to Levi Ball and removed to the General Aldrich place in Westmoreland; 1895 Caroline Ball sold to Frances C. Hodgkins; 1919 to John B. Russell of Boston; 1923 to Wesley C. Foster; 1923 11½ acres to Fred Steinka; 1928 to Clark Kathan of Westmoreland; 1935 to Gertrude S. Stone; 1936 to Marion F. Cooke; 1945 to Elizabeth Ann Loehr; 1952 to Mary Frances Foster.

## COUNTY ROAD

313. MARION B. BABBITT: In 1937 Mrs. Mary Reed Cutter sold five acres here to Marion B. Babbitt who built the house. For earlier history see below.

314. MARY REED CUTTER—CHAPPELL CELLARHOLE: South of #313 there was an earlier house on the old 1781 crossroad (Chappell Hill Road) from Ramsay Hill to Wentworth Road. This is out of the east part of Lot #4 in the 4th Range which Abigail Bellows received by her father's will. It later belonged to her brother John, then to his son Josiah 2nd and thus became a part of the Knapp Place.

Jacob N. Knapp sold 25 acres to James Hooper Jr.; 1849 ten acres to William Farnum; 1854 to Gardner Miner (Lydia); 1857 to Mason Fay (Jane); 1861 to Stephen Fay (Amanda); 1863 she to William Chappell; 1885 to Lora F. Holden; 1909 her widower Edward M. Holden to George L. Hooper; 1909 to Frank W. Stearns. From then on, this property has been part of the Cutter place on Prospect. The house here burned January 2, 1885, while William Chappell owned. The family escaped in their nightclothes—in their haste throwing mirrors downstairs and carrying the feather ticks. The livestock was saved. It was a bitter cold night, and was too far from the village for help.

315. PEARCE & KOSON—LOT #7 IN 4TH RANGE, THE SOUTHEAST CORNER: (See #284.) In 1921 Ralph E. Proctor and Robert F. Gurnsey sold to William G. Smalley; 1927 to Herbert E. Wells, he selling gravel from the place; 1940 to Gertie I. Pearce (Mrs. Edwin H.) and daughter Edna G. Koson (Mrs. John). This was the triangular piece of land between the County Road and Hooper Road. Mrs. Pearce built a small house on the southern end, in the pines; Mrs. Koson another small house a little to the north.

316. JOHN KOSON: About 1954 the Kosons built this house in the point



between the roads. Both the Pearces and Kosons have improved the property.

In 1761 John Graves of Saybrook, Conn., bought from Benjamin Bellows Lots #6 in the 3rd Range and #9 in the 4th Range, extending from the Boggy Meadow tract east to include the land where Stuart Graves now lives. John Graves had at least three grown sons when he came to Walpole,—John Jr., Eliphas, and Eliad. John Sr. settled near where Stuart Graves now lives, John Jr. where Allen Holmes is and Eliad where Thomas Graves is.

317. STUART GRAVES—LOT #9 IN 4TH RANGE: From Deacon John Graves the farm has descended through successive sons as follows: Eliphas, John, George W., John W., Stuart, who has sons to carry on.

318. ROBERT P. DANIELS: In 1950 Stuart Graves sold this lot to Daniels, who built the house. There was a cellarhole, but land records reveal no information. This was not on the early road. In 1781 there was the Graves crossroad and the Kingsbury Road, but the south end passed east of Stuart Graves' house. The County Road was not laid until 1822.

There seem to have been two mill privileges on what is now Stuart Graves' farm: one on Great Brook at the northeast part of the farm, probably never developed; and another on the west side of County Road. Eliphas Graves sold this one in 1811 to John Graves. Joseph, Richard, and Thomas Russell Jr. and Alfred Flint were involved in the ownership of this mill site before 1820; 1820 to Samuel Martin. The mills here took his name. Reference was made to them as Martin's Mills as late as 1836 although they were probably gone before 1834. Faulkner and Colony foreclosed 1838 and sold 1838 to Alfred A. Parmelee; 1855 to Charles H. Parmelee.

319. The mill house was on the Graves crossroad, only a cellarhole now. Parmelee was here 1858. It is now Graves land.

320. THOMAS GRAVES—LOT #8 IN 5TH RANGE: In 1764 Benjamin Bellows sold this lot to Eliad Graves, son of John. He was remembered as a diminutive man, and bent almost double in advanced life. His oldest daughter Roxana married her cousin Isaac Graves. In 1820 Eliad sold this farm to their son Caleb Paschal Graves who was "to support Eliad and his wife Abigail, providing wholesome meats, drinks, apparel, lodging, washing, firewood, physics, etc., physician if needed, horse and carriage, they to have such part of the house as they choose." Eliad died



in 1828, Abigail 1823, Caleb Paschal 1844, and his wife Rebeckah Wellington 1891, aged 94. In 1878 she made over the farm to her son William C. Graves; 1918 the other heirs to Tom Graves. This place has remained the same 100 acres with no more than minor changes. Even though there have been hard times, it never went out of the family.

ARTHUR H. BUNKER'S SILAS ANGIER FARM: We must bear in mind that the only road here up to 1822 was the crossroad from Watkins Hill to Wentworth Road. On the south side of this road was Joseph Fay's farm, formerly that of Josiah Johnson (here 1776, brother of Isaac Sr.). Next west was a 40 acre strip 140 rods north and south which Benjamin Bellows sold in 1779 to William Joyner (here 1776). This seems to have included the site of the eastern Taggard house, north side of highway. In 1785 Joyner sold "with buildings standing thereon" to David Johnson, his son-in-law.

Next west was a 50 acre strip 140 rods north and south which Thomas Sparhawk (probably had from Benjamin Bellows) sold 1777 to Isaac Johnson, who had probably been occupying it for some time. He had been in Walpole at least ten years. He immediately sold to David Johnson "reserving to myself and wife improvements of one half land during natural life." In 1783 David Johnson bought of Roland Hall 15½ acres, a jog out of his original west line. This made the 102 acre farm. David Johnson lived here, probably in the Joyner house.

In 1793 David Johnson sold the 102 acres to Aaron Allen Sr. and the Johnson family went to Vermont, later to New York State. Aaron's son Levi settled here first, then after his father died in 1804, Levi moved to Aaron's farm, selling this one to his brother Aaron, who had married 1800 Katherine Salter.

In 1805 Aaron bought his father-in-law's farm on Wentworth Road. In 1813 he sold this farm to Silas Angier. He apparently built a new barn soon after buying, for Jeduthan Russell "was killed at the raising of a barn which is now standing (1879) on the place owned by John W. Taggard, by falling from the plate to the ground May 13, 1813." In 1837 Angier sold the farm to David Russell, whose father owned the farm next south; 1870 to John W. Taggard, who had five sons. Mrs. Weymouth remembered watching them come into their pew in church, Mrs. Taggard with a shawl about her shoulders leading the way. Various members of the Taggard family owned the place until they gradually left Walpole, going to California.

321. In 1902 the Taggards divided the farm. The east part with buildings went as follows: John H. Jr. 1912 to Eugene Nelson; 1916 to Duane F. Ellis; 1921 to Joseph O'Neil; 1927 to John H. O'Brien; 1928 to Arthur H. Chickering, to Warren Houghton; 1938 estate to Arthur H. Bunker; 1939 to Charles Blackwell; 1945 back to Bunker. John Taggard Jr. built the house here.

322. The west part Edward S. Taggard of Porterville, California, sold in 1910 to Earl H. Burt of Chesterfield; 1912 to Clifford L. Sturtevant; 1914 to Lucy M. Davis (Mrs. Arthur M.); 1939 estate to Charles Blackwell; 1945 to Arthur Bunker. John Taggard Sr. lived in the house nearer the corner.

323. ARTHUR H. BUNKER'S RUSSELL FARM: Thomas Russell (Eunice Alexander), according to *AH*, settled first on the Taggard place, but land records do not bear this out. In 1780 he bought 50 acres directly south of the Taggard farm, bordering on the east side of the 4th Range, and in 1805 added 60 more acres of land here. This "was the home of the Russells for three-quarters of a century or more. In connection with his farming interests he used to make flaxen ropes and halters during the winter season". He had ten children.

David seems to have been the business man. From 1813-1870 he owned the Silas Angier place #321, and presumably lived there. In 1847 he sold his father's place to his son John B., who kept it until he sold in 1863 to William B. Mason. Probably David was settling his father's estate. The old man was 94 when he died, and possibly his grandson had been on the place with him.

In 1885 Mason sold to Wesley C. Foster; 1903 to Edward S. Taggard, to Wesley C. Foster, to Willis C. Foster, to Nathan G. Simpson of Lyndonville, Vt.; 1908 to Fred A. Ramsay; 1933 to present owner.

324. ARTHUR H. BUNKER'S WELLINGTON FARM: In 1830 William Wellington (aged 29), bought the main part of what became his home farm from the heirs of Dr. Jesseniah Kittredge, to whom his wife Achsah Kidder was related. The farm extended from the old Turnpike on Watkins Hill south to the woods, and included the Allen Lot next west of the big Whipple lot, part of the Plumley lot (Adams Whipple had bought the wooded east part), and some land that had formerly belonged to Ebenezer Eaton.

To this land William Wellington added other farms and lots: Carpenter Tavern farm 1850; Capt. Robert Fay farm 1843; Joseph Fay farm



1848; Adams Whipple farm, which he sold 1866 to his son-in-law Horatio N. Fletcher; at least part of Widow Martha Whipple's dower, next east of his land on Turnpike, including the point between the roads, which he bought in 1850 from Marvin Bigelow and Luke N. Houghton.

In 1874 he sold his holdings to his sons Scott and Lucius Wellington. The laying of the new County Road here in 1822 opened up this land. The house which stood on the north side of the County Road burned Sept. 5, 1923, and the Lucius Wellingtons went to live in the parsonage. Arthur H. Bunker now owns the main farm, having bought 1937 from Albert M. Wellington, son of Lucius, and other land from Harry J. Jennison 1937.

325. AUNT RURIE CELLARHOLE: Just within the edge of the woods on the southeast side of the lower end of the old Wellington mowing land is a cellarhole—a lovely sight the first time we came upon it, with white birches and wood lilies so thick we thought at first they were the *hemerocallis* which so often mark an old home site.

This is supposed to have been Aunt Rurie's, but no one seems to know who she was. Perhaps she was a Wellington,—William Wellington bought this land in 1843 from Alonzo Hubbard. There was no homestead here according to the 1858 map, so it must have disappeared before that date. A study of the Wellington family names does not show any who might be called Rurie.

Josiah Bellows sold this 71½ acre tract in 1790 to Ebenezer Eaton; 1806 estate to John Emerson of Westminster, Vt.; 1811 to Josiah Flint; 1818 to Joseph Fay, who deeded the same day to his son Robert (Anna Cummings of Marlboro). From 1812-18 Josiah Flint owned the Ebenezer Stowell farm, and probably lived there, so it does not seem likely he would have had a house here. However, in 1817 a county road was laid across here to the Rapids at the Edward Watkins farm. The road followed the Rapids easterly, then went down past William Priest's farm to the Westmoreland line. The part from the County Road to the Rapids was in later years used as a winter road by Edward Watkins.

It is possible that Robert and Anna Fay built here after the new road was laid. Robert died July 22, 1826 (31) without issue. In 1834 Widow Anna Fay had a farm, probably this one. In 1843 Alonzo Hubbard and wife Anna sold the place to William Wellington, so it would appear that the widow Anna Fay married Alonzo Hubbard. There was also Clark W. Hubbard to whom they sold the place briefly in 1840.

In the division of the William Wellington farm between Scott and Lu-

cius, this part came to Scott in 1910. About 1925, it was sold by Clifford Wilbur) to Galen Tiffany, the present owner.

## RAPIDS ROAD

326. GALEN TIFFANY—EDWARD WATKINS CELLARHOLE: In 1782 Jonathan Cochran, then of Londonderry, N. H., bought from James Paul the 50 acres next to the Westmoreland line. In 1791 he bought 6 acres next north, still on the south side of the Rapids, from Nathan Bundy, Jr. In 1796 he bought 11 acres on the north side of the road, also from Bundy who was then of Northumberland, N. H. At that time Cochran had a barn on the south side of the road, and probably a house, although the Watkins house was on the north side of the road. There seems to be no record of how Paul and Bundy came by their land or whether they ever lived on it. Of course, Paul had the place next east, so he may never have lived here, but Cochran owned the south 50 acres nine years before he owned the section where the buildings probably were,—where we know there were buildings later. Perhaps Nathan Bundy Jr. had lived over here before he went north, then later came back to his father's farm on Watkins Hill. In 1797 Cochran sold to Jehoida Moore. Moore had sold his holdings on Derry Hill the year he bought this place; 1802 to Amos Cross from Londonderry, N. H.; 1807 to Danforth Clark; 1833 to Mason Fay (Jane Cochran). They removed to Hanover, selling the farm in 1871 to Gilbert T. Stevens who lived on the Flint farm; 1877 to Edward Watkins. George B. Tiffany bought 1900; 1942 to his son Galen. There were still buildings in 1900.

327. GALEN TIFFANY—ALFRED WATKINS CELLARHOLE: In 1786 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to James Paul 100 acres along the Westmoreland line next west of what Josiah Bellows later sold to Stephen Prentice. Paul apparently lost the property to Eliphalet Fox in 1789, who sold 1807 to Jesseniah Kittredge, but Paul seems to have continued to live here; 1831 Kittredge heirs to Abiah Kidder Jr. whose grandmother was Abigail Kittredge, sister of Dr. Jesseniah. Kidder, who settled in Walpole, and subsequently went to Belmont, Mass., is said to have been the third minister who preached in the Hollow. In 1834 his father (Abiah) was living on this place. From 1843 to 1848, he lived on the Holland Mason place.

In 1839 Abiah Jr. owned 128 acres, so he must have had another place somewhere. In 1842 he sold to David Esty (Mary); George Esty sold 1851 to Alfred Watkins.



His son Edward first lived on the next farm to the west; after his first wife died, he came to live with his parents. After Edward died, the place was sold in 1911 to Harry Jennison. The Jennisons traded the farm for a creamery in Keene and went there. Joseph W. Neaves of Keene, who had bought the place, sold 1915 to Mary L. Pregent; 1924 to Ezra A. Brown. The Brown estate sold 1926 to George Tiffany; 1942 to his son Galen.

Albert Wellington took the house down, intending to use it to build where his house had burned.

328. GALEN TIFFANY—JOANNA BELLOWS CELLARHOLE: Between the Silas Williams place and the Westmoreland line, and west of the Ball farm, there was a  $41\frac{3}{4}$  acre piece which Josiah Bellows sold in 1795 to Stephen Prentice, husbandman, for £40. He erected buildings on the southeast side of the road, near the curve, and probably lived here. In 1797 Stephen Prentice Jr. had a shop on Main Street, chair-making and painting. Prentice lived here for some years apparently, selling in 1822 to Levi Fay; after two months to Joseph Mason Jr.; 1830 to John Mason Adams (Ruth); February 1857 John Mason Adams went to his father's place, the Whipple farm, apparently with the thought of taking it over, but he died the following fall.

In 1857 John Mason Adams sold to Asa Gilbert; 1857 to Joanna Bellows, who is not mentioned in the *Bellows Gen.* Her son William F. Bellows, who married Sarah J. H. in 1861, was for some reason Asa Gilbert's ward in 1858. He may have been a minor, and between 1858 and 1861 may have come of age and married. He and his wife lived on the place until they sold 1864 to Robert C. Fay; 1865 to Luther Burt; 1870 Henry Burt to Alfred Watkins, who owned the place next west and who seems to have added this property to it. There is no indication that the buildings were not still here and no record of what became of them.

329. WILLIAM PATNODE—SILAS WILLIAMS CELLARHOLE: This was the place next west of the old Gilbert (Ball) farm, a 50 acre piece south of the Whipple farm. It included the rather pleasant house site in the dip on the south side of the road, and a cellarhole on the other side of the road, beyond the turn. In 1790 Joseph Mason owned here; 1796 Joseph Munn of Rutland, Vt., innkeeper, sold to William Watkins; 1815 to Silas Williams (Christie) of Westmoreland. He probably stayed here the rest of his life to about 1860. In 1861 Jason Williams of Keene and Elizabeth Williams at home here sold to James Comstock of Westmoreland.

There was an orchard near the house and 20,000 oak shooks piled in the orchard and in the pasture in 1861. James Comstock apparently sold the part south of the road to his son Charles and the rest of the farm from then on went with the Whipple farm, which James had bought.

Beatrice A. and Arthur Jennison sold 1943 to Arthur Chickering Jr.; 1956 to William Patnode.

We found no record of the intervening time; no explanation of the other cellarhole. Could this possibly have belonged to Peter Casper in 1806? He lived somewhere in this section then, later was toll gatherer at the Village Bridge.

## WATKINS HILL

330. HOWARD PETRIE: In 1773 Benjamin Bellows sold for £100 to his step-son Jonathan Jennison two tracts of land: 53 acres of what is now the home farm of Albert Fletcher and 100 acres of what is now the home of Howard Petrie on the Watkins Hill Road. In 1785 Jennison sold the first place to Jonas Hosmer and moved to the second place. "He lived there until he died 1835, when it was occupied by his son Thomas, then by Thomas' son John, and lastly by John Jr. Jonathan was the progenitor of all persons by the name of Jennison remaining in town . . ." in 1879. In 1876 the estate to Charles A. Watkins; 1916 to Emma M. O'Brien; 1930 to Nial Bemis. A barn burned Aug. 25, 1931, caused by lightning; 1938 to Howard S. Jeck; 1950 to George and Helen Chickering Audet; 1952 to Leslie S. and Iola Hubbard; 1954 to Algion and Mary Houghton; 1957 to Howard and Alice W. Petrie. The Petries have a gift shop "Autumn Hill" in the barn.

The Jennisons did not have the upstairs finished off, but the boys slept up there. Charlie Watkins changed the house considerably and recent owners have changed it more.

331. EVELYN STEVENS: In 1773 there is a record of the transfer from Benjamin Bellows to Nathan Bundy, husbandman, for £10, of 100 acres lying northeasterly of the Keene road and at the southwest corner of the Atkinson tract on Derry Hill. This lot was shown on the Bellows & Atkinson map.

From a record of indenture made February 18, 1811, it appears that the elder Nathan had died and the son Nathan was living in Lunenburg, Vt. Saviah (or was it Zerviah or Sophia), widow of Nathan Sr., agreed to let the farm to Nathan, he "to pay \$25 worth of good wood cut and split fit for the fire to be delivered at said Saviah's now dwelling house



each and every year during said term, and to make the fires for said Saviah if she wishes. Also deliver to said Saviah \$12 worth of good merchantable grain each year; \$12 worth of good meat each year, \$8 worth of good cyder and apples each year; to keep one cow yearly for the use of Saviah, to be well kept and \$6 worth of good wool and fleace yearly, and \$7 in money yearly. Also Nathan covenants to use premises in careful husbandlike manner. Also provide house room for Saviah during term, being part of kitchen and one whole room in house, and pay taxes on farm." The "term" was "for natural life of me Saviah Bundy."

In 1840 Nathan sold to his son George Bundy (Jane Moor). In 1857 George sold to Rufus Leonard; 1902 Sarah E. Leonard to Willie G. Leonard; 1916 to Emma M. O'Brien of Boston; 1932 to Neil C. and Evelyn N. Stevens of Long Island, New York. This is one farm that seems to have remained intact through years except for the northwest corner which Nathan Bundy sold to Jesseniah Kittredge.

332. LEONARD CELLARHOLE: This farm extends to the east so that the southeast corner is east of the road to Derry Hill from the old Christian Meeting House, the northeast corner on the west side of the road. In this lot on the west side of the highway, up on the bank, is the cellarhole of the house where Mrs. Leonard lived in 1858, the year after Rufus had bought the property. It was probably not built before this highway was laid in 1828, and was gone before Tom Graves can remember.

333. O'BRIEN: Lt. Aaron Allen from Mansfield, Conn., and his wife Sarah were early settlers in town. In 1768 he bought from Benjamin Bellows for £30 a 50 acre lot, 50 x 160 rods, on the west side of the old county road, next north of the crossroad. To his original 50 acres he added more land so that he owned a good part of Watkins Hill as well as tracts on Derry Hill. This lot was shown on the Bellows & Atkinson Map. Allen held many important offices in the town's early settlement, and was chosen to represent the town in the Provincial Assembly at Exeter 1788-9.

His oldest son, Levi, succeeded his father here in 1804, and built the house now on the farm. "He became greatly interested in the ministrations of Elder Rollins, and was actively instrumental in building up the Christian church and society in the Hollow. A little incident occurred at the time Elder Rollins commenced his labors in town. Mr. Allen was greatly interested in his preaching, and applied to Mr. Dickinson to allow Mr. Rollins to occupy his pulpit one Sunday, that the people of his congregation might hear him speak. Mr. Dickinson very blandly replied, 'I should be most happy to accede to your wishes, Mr. Allen, but I can't have my pulpit defiled by such a man as Elder Rollins.' This remark had a tendency to further the building up of Mr. Rollins' society:—it was just the food for opposition to feed upon, and the best use was

made of it. Mr. Allen was a very honorable, high-minded citizen, and very popular with his townsmen, who kept him in office year after year for a long period. He also settled a large majority of the estates of deceased persons. He neglected his farm to do business for others, and his charges were so moderate, fearing unpopularity, that he pecuniarily ran behindhand." He sold in 1825 to Dr. George Sparhawk and with his family went west.

In 1850 Dr. Sparhawk sold to Oliver Hazzard Perry Watkins, son of Charles, who had the old Kittredge place; 1897 heirs to George O. Taggard; 1910 to Alfred Clarke, who tore down the ell of the house and built new; 1915 to J. Sumner Draper; 1915 to Frank E. Morse; 1915 to George H. Collyer; 1915 to Emma M. O'Brien of Newton, Mass.

334. CAPT. JOSEPH FAY CELLARHOLE: This place was on the south side of the crossroad about midway between the County Road and Watkins Hill. Joseph and Lucy Fay came from Mystic, Conn., to Walpole in 1774, and first settled on the Kingsbury Road; later moved to Watkins Hill at the northeast end of the crossroad.

In 1777 Joseph Fay bought the Josiah Johnson lot on the south side of the Taggard crossroad, mostly wooded now; but there is still one open area just inside the western boundary line, near the road.

Josiah Johnson joined the church in 1767 and probably lived here. In 1777 he was still living here when Benjamin Bellows apparently took it away from him and sold to Aaron Allen who promptly sold it to Joseph Fay. It is not certain whether Fay lived here or over on the north side of Watkins Hill Road. He went off to the war and died of wounds, leaving Lucy with four children: Joseph Jr. 14, Holland 8, Levi, Reuben 1. In 1790 Lucy sold the farm to Joseph Jr., who remained on it, adding considerably to his acreage. Probably he also had a mill on the brook, above the falls which were named for him. Holland went to Fay Hill, north part of the Atkinson tract, now Webb. Levi bought a farm on Derry Hill northeast of School #5, remained there through life. Reuben went to Windham, Vt.

Joseph Jr. and his wife Sarah Graves had 11 children, most of whom left Walpole. (See *AH* 248-9.) In 1848 the Fay heirs sold to William Wellington, who already owned property in the neighborhood.

In 1793 Lucy Fay bought the south corner by the crossroad on Watkins Hill. She still owned the land on the north side of the Keene Road except for a piece down toward the Hollow which she had sold to Daniel Whipple 1787; 1799 she sold both sides of the road to Nathan Bundy Jr. By a road record of 1793 she had a barn here, probably on the north side of the road. Thomas Jennison had a barn here on the south side



of the road 1809. Aldrich says Joseph and Lucy settled here on the north side of road, and that Joseph Jr. settled on the crossroad. However, he admits that he had been able to find out very little about the family.

335. FLOYD JENNISON: In 1776 Benjamin Bellows sold to Lemuel Sargent 51 acres where Floyd Jennison lives now, and where Isaac Johnson, Jr. lived then. In 1777 Sargent sold the same to Ebenezer Eaton, yeoman, of Concord, New Hampshire, who also bought more land to the south. Following are the provisions of Ebenezer's will 1805: Widow Comfort 19 acres and part of dwelling and barn; Eliphalet \$1 (oldest son, settled at Maple Grove Road on his step-mother's place); Elizabeth Garnsey (or Guernsey), daughter, \$80; Josiah \$1; Abigail \$150; Calvin, other property and executor; Susannah Heaton \$100.

In 1809 estate of Calvin Eaton (Comfort must have died) was sold to Jonathan Emerson; remained in the Emerson family through Jonathan, John, George who stayed on the farm with his mother; 1918 heirs sold to Clarence E. Jennison. In 1919 Clarence bought, on the north side of the road, land which had belonged to Joseph Fay. In 1946 Mrs. Clarence Jennison, her husband having died, sold to son Floyd Jennison.

336. WILLIAM KOPACZ: In 1938 Clarence Jennison sold a house lot here to his son-in-law Jesse D. Pickering (Marjorie Jennison). The house was formerly the schoolhouse in the Hollow; 1956 to William Kopacz.

337. JOHN JOHNSON: In 1933 Clarence E. Jennison sold to his son-in-law John Johnson (Marion Jennison).

338. FLOYD JENNISON: In 1943 Clarence E. Jennison sold to Edward Pickering, his son-in-law, who sold back to Floyd Jennison a few years later.

KING LOT. Next west of Clarence Jennison's was the Obadiah King lot. This lot extended from the Taggard crossroad corner on Watkins Hill to include the north part of the field farthest west, south of the brook, in the Wellington farm. Obadiah King was here 1776. Benjamin Bellows sold 1776 to Aaron Allen. In 1793 Widow Lucy Fay bought the three acres in the north corner; sold 1799 to Nathan Bundy, Jr. No buildings.

CHRISTIAN HOLLOW. This was the meeting point of the roads from Walpole, Keene, the East Westmoreland Railroad Depot, and Derry Hill. Here there was a school and the Christian Church in which the social life of the community centered. Next east of the church was William Robin-

son's tavern on the 3rd New Hampshire Turnpike. In the point between the Watkins Hill Road and the County Road there was an iron foundry and/or mill in early days. Later the old Turnpike toll house stood here.

339. WIDOW WHIPPLE'S CELLARHOLE: In 1780 Benjamin Bellows estate sold to Daniel Whipple a 150 acre lot south from the then road in Christian Hollow. The west line was about 6 rods east of the woods line north of the road, including about one half of the present point between the roads and crossing the Wellington road at the eastern tip of the mowing land south of the road. The east line was about 6 rods west of the present Whipple Hill Road where it comes into the Keene road. The lot extended southward 240 rods to the farms on the Rapids.

In the woods at the east end of the Wellington Meadows, between the highway and the brook, is an old foundation. When Mrs. Leonard was a girl there was an old building here used for a sugar house and storage of farm equipment. This was in the old Whipple farm and may have been the first Whipple house. Aldrich wrote (*AH* 381) "Daniel Whipple came to this town from Grafton, Mass. . . . was an iron founder and had a foundry on the brook west of the meeting house in the Hollow. . . . When he came to town that portion where he settled was one dense forest, and his wife always kept a stock of fire-brands ready to drive away bears from the premises as that kind of gentry have an instinctive dread of fire. . . . They lived in a small hut that once stood near the Wellington place, getting their milling done somewhere near the Merriam place, and attending church at the first meeting house" on North Main Street.

When Daniel Whipple died in 1796 he left his widow, Martha, with five children: Daniel 19, Adams 17, Polly 11, Betsey 5, Eben Waters 3. Daniel was probably still at home, perhaps carrying on his father's business. He seems to have had a shop on the north side of the road opposite his mother's house. From the deeds it appears that his son Daniel and the Hubbards removed to Lyndon, Vt., by 1822. Widow Martha remained here, but she seems to have died by 1832.

The Widow Martha Whipple's house and barn were in the point between the roads—a small house with two chambers upstairs. The Wellingtons bought this property and the house became run down. Scott kept his sheep here. Harry Jennison finally took the building down after Scott died.

340. PAUL R. GALLOWAY: The Whipples also owned on the north side of the highway, west of the road to Derry Hill, having bought from Lucy



Fay. Wellingtons owned this and Scott had from his father William. Scott first lived in the Widow Whipple house, later built himself a house on the north side of the highway, west of the brook where the henhouse now stands. Harry Jennison took down this building. In 1919 Scott Wellington's estate sold to Clarence E. Jennison; 1922 to Henry Croteau of Keene; 1924 to Frank Cameron; 1940 to Charles A. (Carl) Cameron; 1943 the corner lot to Richard Cameron who erected a one-room house; 1952 to Christyne M. Galloway with buildings; 1952 to present owners who built present house.

341. RUSSELL L. GALLOWAY: Lucy Fay sold this land to Nathan Bundy Jr.; to Allen; to Jonathan Emerson; to Clarence Jennison; to Charles A. Cameron; 1949 to Russell L. and Christyne M. Galloway, who built a house halfway up the hill.

342. HAROLD F. ROBBINS—WHIPPLE FARM: Adams Whipple seems to have been the farmer of his family. As early as 1803 he began buying land adjoining the southeast side of his father's original lot, and probably cleared the farm on Whipple Hill and erected buildings. In 1814 the present road over Whipple Hill was laid, the north end having been a part of the old 3rd New Hampshire Turnpike.

In 1842 Adams made over the farm to his son John A., reserving two east rooms for himself and wife Huldah; 1844 John sold to brother George W.; 1855 to Holland Mason (Susan); 1856 to John Adams; 1857 to John Mason Adams; heirs to William Wellington. When Wellington sold in 1866 to Horatio N. Fletcher of Westmoreland, he kept the north 50 acres. When Fletcher sold in 1867 to James Comstock, he reserved the 50 acre west pasture, including the now wooded area southeast of the Wellington meadow.

Comstock, who had previously been living on the Silas Williams place, added the part north of the Rapids to the Whipple farm; 1887 to Mrs. Emeline H. Staples (Mrs. Philander) of Fairlee, Vt.; 1894 to Arthur H. Chickering; 1895 to Wellington Curtis. He came from Surry and lived in the old house until he built a new one beside it in 1910 without a cellar. The old place rotted down. In the walls was found the bones of a baby. The house now stands dilapidated, vacant, weather-beaten.

In 1914 Curtis sold to Lyle Elroy; Sands of Salem, Mass. He died here; heirs sold 1951 to present owners.

On August 4, 1822, great damage was done here by a tornado which twisted trees, levelled stonewalls, and took off tops of chimneys.



## *Old Robinson Tavern*

343. EARL R. ALDRICH—PARSONAGE: In 1853 George W. Whipple (Emily F.) sold to the First United Christian Religious Society of Walpole a lot here for a parsonage; 1937 to Floyd R. and Olive M. Jennison; 1947 to Ralph N. Johnson; 1947 to Robert W. and Harriet S. Kilburn; 1952 to David J. Alexander (Marie A.); 1958 to present owners.

344. WALTER BLAKE: In 1781 Nathaniel Baker bought from the Benjamin Bellows estate 60 acres of land between the Keene road and the Atkinson tract on Derry Hill. In 1787 and 1795 Baker added more land to the northeast, making a total of 120 acres.

As early as 1808 Baker and William Robinson seem to have had some kind of partnership. In 1811 Baker leased the farm to Robinson with the following provisions: "So much of house, barn and woodhouse as Nathaniel and Sarah, his wife, wish to improve for their comfort to hold during life of both of them. Robinson agrees to carry on farm during their life and pay  $\frac{1}{2}$  corn in basket,  $\frac{1}{2}$  english grain in the half bushel,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cyder in cellar by said Baker finding casks,  $\frac{1}{2}$  flax in bundle. Good wood shall be kept cut and split at said Baker's door sufficient for Baker and wife. Each pays  $\frac{1}{2}$  taxes and each pays taxes on own stock; Robinson to keep 12 head of cattle and 10 sheep and take care of; Robinson to pay



Baker's highway taxes. Robinson has farming utensils. If Baker dies first, wife gets 1/2 of above recited articles. Robinson to suckle and tend Baker's calves yearly."

Baker died about 1812 and Robinson acquired full ownership. He kept a tavern here on the turnpike. It is recorded that in August 1822 his barn was swept away by a tornado.

In 1837 William Arnold bought the place from Robinson. He ". . . was born in Westmoreland 1792 and learned the machinist's trade and worked at that business in his younger days. At what time he came to Walpole is not known, but at one time he worked for Thomas Moore as a hired man on his farm (on Derry Hill), and married one of his daughters, Naomi, Oct. 3, 1822. After his marriage he worked at his trade awhile in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, where some of his children were born. He returned to Walpole and purchased the Robinson Tavern stand."

Josiah G. Bellows wrote of Arnold: ". . . William Arnold . . . kept a stage tavern for many years over in Christian Hollow. That was then a lively road. There were no railroads, and all the passengers, and freight moving to and from Boston, in that section, passed that way. The heavy stage-coach with its four or six horses and great cumbersome wagons, with their long teams of horses or oxen, passed by his door, or stopped to bait at his tavern. If the driver were on economy bent, he was allowed all the comfort of the house on purchasing a mug of flip, with which he moistened the luncheon he brought along with him and his team. When the inevitable happened and the stillness and quietness which soon pervaded the old stage-coach road was only infrequently broken by the faint scream of the steam whistle from beyond the hill, old Bill Arnold relapsed into a state of innocuous desuetude and passed the remainder of his long life in superintending his farm, and instilling into the mind of his son who succeeded him, and any of the neighbors who would listen, the precepts on which he had built up his life scheme. He was a tall thin man, whose scanty white locks covered a countenance round, rosy and abounding in shrewdness. His small, twinkling eyes showed the nature of the man. He was very sententious, but not over well stocked with the wisdom of the ages, a prominent figure in the evenings at the village store where one habit of his greatly amused the circle of loafers there congregated. Arnold was an inveterate smoker, wedded to the short clay pipe, not over three inches long, black and dingy with use, in which he burned, or tried to burn, the filthy weed. He was so impressed by his own wisdom that if it was called in play when he was in the act of lighting his pipe, and the damp plug tobacco he used required frequent ignition, he would at once begin to talk and let the match burn out before he became aware of it and had lighted his pipe. It was one of the amusements of the listening throng to see how many matches old Bill would light up before he got the fire going. Sometimes the wags even went so far as to put in the hands of the store-keeper, old Major J. Britten, enough money to reimburse him for all the matches old Bill would waste. Matches then came in packs, containing eight cards as they were called, and each card had sixteen matches. I am particular about this, because when I was young matches were a great luxury and happy the boy who possessed a pack

for his Fourth of July. They cost, if I remember right, some twelve cents a pack. It is remembered that on one occasion my wife's father, then the supreme boss of the Republican party here of which old Bill was a member and Wm. G. Buffum who occupied a like position on the other side, put their heads together and determined to see how long they could keep Arnold trying to light his pipe. And how many matches he would consume. Judicious suggestions of the various burning issues of the day prolonged the time to two hours, and consumed four packs of matches, and then the old man's pipe was not aglow."

His son William continued on the farm; 1899 heirs to Frances A. Mann; 1903 to Luella Farnsworth; 1905 to Ellis Copeland; 1907 to Wilburs and Wilcox who apparently cut the timber. In 1913 John A. Wheeler sold the little piece on the west side of the Derry Hill Road to Scott Wellington and the farm to Harry O. Ayers; 1928 widow Margaret J. to Nial Bemis; 1930 to Wallace A. Blake of Springfield, Mass.; 1958 to present owners.

The house was built probably around 1800 while Nathaniel Baker was still here. William Arnold built a new barn March 1845, and also a horse barn.

In 1813 Robinson deeded land for a school to District 13 east of his buildings—foundation still to be seen in the pasture by the brook.

The blacksmith shop may have been across the highway from this place. Luke Thurston had a blacksmith shop, also Richard Clark. There is a spring there, along with apple trees and lilies of the valley, probably a remnant from Cora Arnold's garden.

345. LAURENCE E. BLAKE—SITE OF CHRISTIAN CHURCH: In 1826 William Robinson deeded to the Religious Christian Society 66 rods of land on the north side of the highway, east of the road built two years later to Derry Hill. South of the meeting house there was a Common. In 1955 the agents of the church sold the land to Wallace A. Blake; 1956 to Laurence E. and Marilyn Blake who built a house in 1957.

346. In the edge of the woods south of Harold Robbins' field, there is a cellarhole for which we have no explanation. It was on Davis Carpenter land, later in the Wellington family for many years. It is possible that this is where Ebenezer Wellington lived when on Carpenter Hill. The 1834 school district list includes William Wyman in this area.

347. HAROLD F. ROBBINS: Richard Clark brought this place together around 1813; 1826 to Roswell Wise from Langdon, who removed from here to Rockingham; 1829 to William Marshall of Alstead; 1831 to Joseph Mason; 1855 Holland Mason (Susan) to George W. Whipple;



1856 to Sarah W. Allen (Henry T. P.); 1923 estate of Frank P. Allen to M. Louise Cameron; 1925 estate to Royal and Mabel M. Robbins, who had been burned out down on the Rapids; 1941 to present owners. Royal Robbins added another story to the house.

## COCHRAN ROAD

348. OLD EDWARD WATKINS FARM: In 1793 Edward Watkins (son of Nathan) bought from Thomas Bellows 156 acres next south of the Atkinson Derry Hill tract, probably erected buildings on the hill east of the highway; 1811 to son Royal with provision for his care and for the schooling of Charlotte and Lise and Betsey. In 1812 Edward Watkins took back the farm; 1816 to John Messenger (Lydia); 1819 east side to Nathan Nye; 1821 west side to Matthew Dickey; 1823 Nye the east side to Matthew Dickey; 1830 to George M. Dickey; 1831 to Salma Hale and Charles G. Adams (Mary Ann); 1836 to Ira Hodgkins of Groton, Mass.; 1850 to Levi S. Leonard; 1862 to Rufus Leonard; 1871 to Madison J. Comstock; 1894 to Charles E. Seward; 1894 to Frank P. Allen; 1922 heirs to Harry J. Jennison, to Arthur Jennison; 1955 to Walter A. Kistler.

When Royal Watkins sold the farm back to his father in 1812, he reserved 20 acres along the north side, the land west of the road and the 50 acres in #16. He had built a house, apparently east side of road, and lived there. In 1816 and 1819 Joel Chaffin seems to have owned at least the 20 acres, may have sold that and on west side of road to Recompense Hall, later Ezra Hall owned.

## CARPENTER HILL

One of the earliest roads in Walpole (probably the earliest) was what we called the Merriam Road from Keene to Township #3, cut in 1738 by the first proprietors to whom Massachusetts had granted the town. The road came from Surry into Walpole by the old Merriam place, up over Carpenter Hill and down to Christian Hollow. This road was described roughly in the town records in 1762 and was surveyed in 1774. In that year Maj. Josiah Goldsmith had established himself on Carpenter Hill at what was later known as the Carpenter Tavern. From his place, which seems to have been the crossroads of the area, the road to the Hollow followed about the same course as the latest turnpike, coming into the present road at Mrs. Jennison's and continuing down the hill as the present road. To the southeast there was the Merriam Road; and to the south there was the road down by what is now the Patnode place,

to the Westmoreland line. In 1785 a county road was laid from Goldsmith's to Wentworth Road, generally known as the Rapids.

This whole area south of the Atkinson tract on Derry Hill belonged to Benjamin Bellows. In 1772 he sold to his son, Benjamin Bellows Jr., 460 acres, a strip 210 rods wide and a mile long from the Surry line west along the Westmoreland line. References indicate that Benjamin Smith owned this (or at least the part next to the Surry line) before Benjamin Bellows Jr., but he had no deed recorded until we find Benjamin Bellows Jr. deeding him what is now the Fred Whitney farm in 1779 (he was there 1774). This would indicate that Benjamin Smith was perhaps the first settler on Carpenter Hill.

In 1773 John Merriam bought property next to the Surry line. Eliphalet Fox bought land that is now the Crehore place and in 1777 bought the Salem Town place also. In 1775 Barnabas Willey bought what is now the Patnode place, and Phinehas Wright bought the next place south (Joslyn). These are both on the west side of the old road.

In 1779 John Flint bought 300 acres next west, from the Westmoreland line north to include part of the present Wilbur place.

At least as early as 1784 Benjamin Redington had 50 acres of Carpenter Hill, the Scovil farm, later owned by Joseph Mason. In 1797 the town voted to lay a road from John Wheeler's (at the corner on the Crehore Road) to Joseph Mason's. The road testifies to the fact that it was built, but there is no further record.

In 1799 a charter was granted for the 3rd N. H. Turnpike, and it was subsequently built over Carpenter Hill. From Christian Hollow it passed up Whipple Hill Road, then southeast to the Harry Jennison place and across the road, from thence following about the same course as the 1775 road, as may be seen on the 1858 map of Cheshire County, except that in 1832 it did not turn out of the present road until the top of the hill south of Jennisons. The piece of road from Jennisons to the old Carpenter Tavern was discontinued in 1869.

The course of the old turnpike may be found by starting from the tavern site, and going west on the road toward Wilbur's. Instead of following their road left, one climbs the wall into the pasture. The old turnpike continues with walls on either side, a cowpath down through heavy pasture ferns, juniper and pine, in the openings a lovely view to the distant Vermont mountains. The hermit thrush is in possession now. The north wall peters out. One comes into the present road at the barway above Jennison's.



About 1813 the turnpike was relocated. Instead of going over the Whipple Hill Road, it went in the course of the present road from the Hollow to the Jennison's.

From the tavern, it continued southeast past the burying ground (established sometime between 1773 and 1795 out of northwest corner of land of Eliphalet Fox), across the present road east of Conley's to the present Patnode place, then directly south to the Westmoreland line, somewhat east of the present road.

The road to the Crehore place, which is fairly new, was established as a private road but is now public.

Of all these roads, only the County Road and the spurs to Patnode and Crehore are in common use today. The other homesteads not on the County Road have burned, fallen down, been removed, or fallen into disuse.

349. MRS. HARRY JENNISON: This was an early part of the holdings of Aaron Allen, next east of the 100 acre Whipple lot. In 1818 William Robinson sold land here to Edward B. Rollins (Rhoda), the same Elder Rollins in whose preaching Aaron Allen had become interested when Rollins commenced his labors in Walpole. (See #333.)

In 1825 Rollins had removed to Randolph, Vt., and was listed as a clerk when he sold land and buildings to Josiah Osborn (Dordana) of Piermont, N. H.; 1828 to Jacob B. Burnham, minister at the Christian Church in the Hollow until 1845-50 (*AH* 497), when he took up practical medicine; 1865 to Joseph Allen of Keene; 1868 to Josiah H. Jennison, father-in-law of the present owner.

350. FLINT FARM—PHILIP H. FAULKNER, INC.: In 1779 John Flint of Lincoln, Massachusetts Bay, bought from Benjamin Bellows 300 acres extending along the Westmoreland line 168 rods, west of Phineas Wright's farm. He sold the south 90 acres (Priest farm) and the west 103½ acres (Gilbert-Ball farm) and added a piece of the Carpenter farm (south of the turnpike and northwest of the road to the Rapids), so that his farm finally included 159 acres when Elijah Mason bought it from his estate in 1811.

Elijah Mason sold it to Joseph Mason Jr. in December 1811. "He had been schooled in adversity, but notwithstanding, he managed by dint of energy and perseverance to acquire an English education sufficient to enable him to utilize his time winters in teaching common schools, while in summer he labored on the land until he was able to buy this farm. Soon after he acquired the farm, his parents became infirm and he had to lend a helping hand to them and at the same time become a

foster parent to his younger brothers and sisters. He gained an enviable record as a teacher and many lived to remember that under his care good behavior was one of the cardinal virtues in the school room. He had a great desire to have his children acquire a good education and to that end always manifested a lively interest in the common schools of the town. As a farmer he stood among the first in the orderly manner of conducting his business. His religious sentiments were deep and strong, and held out to the last in the belief of a glorious immortality." (AH)

In 1858 the Masons sold the farm to Gilbert T. Stevens and retired to the village where they built Brookside (Dolloff place).

After Stevens died, his wife and son, then of Walloomsac, N. Y., sold the farm to Addie M. Chickering Clement of Surry; 1903 to Alton V. Farnsworth of Washington, N. H., who also owned the Wallace Blake farm, and later moved here. His wife, Luella Copeland, died July 1910, leaving several children, the youngest 13 weeks old. He sold the farm the following March to E. Everett Rhodes of Norwood, Mass.; 1924 to Katharine Dunham Bennett of New York City; 1945 estate to Clifford A., Howard D., Denman W. Wilbur; 1947 house site to present owner.

The buildings burned in the afternoon May 22, 1928. Sam Leavitt and Richard Cameron were burning brush and the fire got away from them. The buildings stood on the south side of the road, commanding a wide view. Perhaps it was here that Daniel Webster, on his way from Bellows Falls to Keene July 9, 1840, "stopped his barouche that he might get out and view the Green Mountains of Vermont and the hills of New Hampshire." He was travelling the present County Road.

351. WILLIAM R. PATNODE—GILBERT-BALL FARM: In 1787 John Flint sold this 103½ acre strip from the Westmoreland line north, out of the west side of his farm, to Joseph Munn. He and his wife Sarah joined the Walpole church June 30, 1781, so they must have been in town before they bought this farm, perhaps the same Munn who was at the tavern in Walpole Village. In 1796 they sold to Thomas Bucks; 1797 to Nathaniel Cross; 1797 to Ebenezer Gilbert of Surry. (See AH 260-1.)

His son Asa Gilbert remained on the farm, owning in 1817-1867. In 1858 Harding Ball and his wife, Asa's daughter Thankful, returned to Walpole to care for her aged parents. The Balls owned the farm from 1867 to 1890, when they sold to their son Henry E. and went to Keene to live with him. He owned until 1898 when his mother removed to California. The place had been in the family 100 years. No doubt the previous owners had buildings here, but Ebenezer Gilbert built about 1797 the house occupied by him and his descendants.

The Balls were ardent workers in the Christian Church. She was



president of the Ladies' Aid, and sang in the choir until she was past 70. She continued church work after removing to California, where she had gone to be with her daughter Jennie (Mrs. Alfred Foster).

In 1898 Henry E. Ball sold to Fred H. Watkins (brother of Edward); 1915 to Isaac J. Chalifoux of Keene, removed to Milwaukee; 1921 to Frank R. Pelsue. He came from Tupper Lake, New York, to Walpole about 1916, was the life of all social gatherings, a wonderful Sunday School worker. He was born in Stockholm, New York, and died in his sleep in February 1924.

May 1924 his estate sold to Royal and Mabel Robbins of Rockingham, Vt. The buildings burned May 17, 1925.

The Robbins sold July 1925 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1956 to present owners who farm the land.

352. WILLIAM R. PATNODE—WILLIAM PRIEST FARM: In 1787 John Flint sold to Abel Flint of Lincoln, Mass., 40 acres in the southwest corner of his farm, on the Westmoreland line. After Abel died, the place was sold 1790 to Samuel Joslin of Winchendon, Mass. He also bought from John Flint the 50 acres next east; 1792 to William Priest of Packersfield, N. H. After death of William, his son Arven sold his share to his brother Jesse H.; 1851 to George H. Gilbert, a grandson of Ebenezer who lived at the junction of the roads to the north. (*AH* 260) He later moved to Keene, selling in 1866 30 acres with buildings to Frederick Crain of Surry (last mention of buildings). In 1869 Crain sold the building site to Harding Ball. Ball finally bought the whole farm, selling in 1890 to his son Henry E. Ball, except 12 acres in the northeast corner which he sold to Estey and Fletcher. From then on, the Priest farm went with the Ball farm.

The house stood on the west side of the road about halfway up the hill.

353. CARPENTER TAVERN FARM: As early as 1774 (although not deeded to him until 1779), Josiah Goldsmith was here on Carpenter Hill. Three thousand soldiers on their way to the Battle of Bennington are said to have stopped at his tavern "where they were refreshed by devouring a whole ox which he had been ordered to prepare for them" (*AH* 331). We have no record of his family except that his daughter Fanny, born 1729, married John Merriam.

In 1785 Goldsmith sold the place (212 acres) to Benjamin Bellows Jr.; 1790 to Daniel Newcomb of Keene who was later a proprietor of the 3rd New Hampshire Turnpike; 1791 to John Moore of Londonderry; 1794

to Davis Carpenter of Woodstock, Conn. He added other parcels of land to his holdings and continued here as an innkeeper.

It is related (*AH* 243) that "at one time Elijah Drury, who is said to have had a voracious appetite, went to Keene to market some farm produce. Among other things he had a quarter of lamb which he sold to Davis Carpenter for 2 sh. On his return, late in the day, having gone without dinner, he called for a meal at Carpenter's. The quarter of lamb had just been roasted and was, with other things, placed on the table before him. When he had completed his dinner, it was found that not only the quarter of lamb had wholly disappeared, but other toothsome etceteras in proportion, for all of which he had paid 25 cents."

Sylvester Carpenter, living in Charlestown in 1809, bought one-third of his father's farm. In 1826 he bought the other two-thirds at the auction of his father's estate and in 1839 the rights of the widow Lucy. He sold the property to Joseph Allen of Surry; 1850 to William Wellington whose family still own. There were still buildings in 1858, apparently gone by 1877.

There are extensive foundations on the south side of the Crehore Road in the point east of where the cemetery road enters—lilacs and day lilies rampant.

354. JOHN CREHORE—CELLARHOLE, AMASA CARPENTER: John Wheeler owned the land at the south end of the Scovill Road and had a house here as early as 1795, although he has no deed recorded until 1798; 1798 to Elijah Mason, to Amasa Carpenter. The house seems to have stood on the west side of the road, perhaps barns on the east, since this piece came to be called the Barn Lot. Up the road farther, in the same field, there is another cellarhole (east side). Perhaps Amasa remained at the first house and, after his death, his wife, daughter Althea and Mary Crain lived there; and perhaps his son Calvin lived in the house on the other side of the road. He was on Carpenter Hill as late as 1850. One set of buildings was gone before 1858. Sylvester Mitchell seems to have owned the property later, sold to Townes. It belonged successively to George Towne, Harry Jennison, 1904 to Cameron, now Crehore.

355. HOWARD AND DENMAN WILBUR—SCOVILL FARM: In 1784 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold from his father's estate 50 acres here to Benjamin Redington, yeoman, for £100 "to fulfill contract", so probably Redington had already been here for some time; 1789 to Joel Chaffin (note that Wheeler was already a neighbor), housewright; 1794 to Joseph Mason who married Lucy Flint. He "buffeted the storms in that inhospitable place many



cold and piercing winters, far removed from neighbors, and almost from civilization, and had a family of 14 children." (See *AH* 323).

It will be recalled that Joseph Mason bought the Flint farm and soon after had to care for his aged parents and his brothers and sisters. Perhaps here is the evidence why he did not himself marry until he was over thirty. He sold this Scovill farm to Walter Carpenter of Boston, son of Davis Carpenter; 1833 to William Howard Scovill who already owned land to the east and north.

Albert Thompson of Westmoreland bought the farm 1880 and sold to Alonzo Jennings the same year; to Sarah Gassett (Geo. H.); 1890 to Amy W. Jennings; 1896 to Curtis G. Britton of Keene, who also bought other land in the area; 1906 to Fred E. Howe of Keene; 1948 his daughter Barbara to Clifford A. Wilbur and sons Howard and Denman.

The land lies well here, fields both sides of the road, beautiful view of Mt. Monadnock. Fields which have been neglected are being reclaimed as cropland. Buildings on road are all gone. Barn was on east and house on west. Clifford Wilbur worked here for Howe 1906. The ell part of the house had been taken down then; they lived in the big part. Raised potatoes, cut hay.

In 1838 360 shooks of staves were cut off, to be sent down river by Luther Foster of Swanzey, putting them into the river at the old ferry place, at the village bridge and Zachariah Carpenter landing.

356. HOWARD AND DENMAN WILBUR: This house is on land that was originally part of the Flint Farm (see #350). The Wilburs erected new buildings on the north side of the highway.

357. STANLEY W. CONLEY: In 1946 the Wilburs sold this 20 acre piece to Stanley W. Conley. It was originally a part of the Davis Carpenter farm which was bought by William Wellington. Scott Wellington owned; 1919 to Clinton W. Tenney; 1923 to Merton R. Tenney; 1925 to John H. Bennett, to Katharine Dunham Bennett; 1945 to the Wilburs. Conley erected the buildings at the southeast corner. In the north corner of this farm is Scott Wellington's burial plot.

358. STOCKER CELLARHOLE: In 1791 while he owned the Carpenter farm, Daniel Newcombe set off a house lot in the southeast corner to Ebenezer Stocker. This would have been on the west side of the road, just north of fence row which was Cushing's (Patnode's) north line. Stocker died about 1798 and his widow Abigail sold to Nathaniel Cross of Wheelock, Vt.; 1802 to John Cross; 1807 to William Tuttle; 1810 to

Sylvester Carpenter. There had been a house but it must have gone before Carpenter bought, since he paid only \$20. All that remains is extensive foundations, lilacs and day lilies.

In 1799 Nathaniel Cross advertised. "For sale small farm 1½ acres, small dwelling house and barn, good shoemaker's shop, about 40 rods south of Carpenter's Tavern on Great Road."

359. WILLIAM PATNODE: Their home farm. In 1775 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to Barnabas Willey the Patnode Farm, 100 acres on the west side of the county road from Walpole to Keene. December 18, 1807, Joseph and Barnabas Willey made the following agreement:

"Joseph promises to support Barnabas and Mercy Willey for their natural lives, taking care of them when sick, and burying them, etc. Also promises to pay Huldah, his sister, \$50 and Leah Willey, \$50, and Lois Willey, \$50, if they get married and call for such sums. If they remain single, Joseph promises to find them a home with him if they choose. If Barnabas and Mercy decide they want to live in a room by themselves, Joseph is to find them a room, and if Barnabas wishes to work in his shop at his trade, Joseph is to find the shop for said purpose. Joseph assumes all of Barnabas' debts. Joseph is to have livestock and farming utensils, the books and the gun. Mercy is to have the furniture and a string of beads, brass kittle, side saddle, and her wearing apparel."

Joseph seems to have lost the place in 1818, and the property changed hands several times before Jonas Pollard bought the place in 1822; 1823 to Joseph Cushing of Baltimore, Md. David Cushing resided on the farm for many years. According to *SH* 562, David Cushing was a farmer and butcher, coming here from Hingham, Mass. His wife was Mary (Polly), daughter of John Adams of Ashburnham, Mass. They had nine children. Their oldest child David was a stage driver from Putney to Boston. For ten years he was a freight stage teamster, residing in Walpole, in New York, and in Surry. David's wife was Rhoda Crain, daughter of Ebenezer Crain. Ebenezer and Elisha Crain were teamsters, having two teams which they drove between Walpole and Boston in 1839. That year Elisha mortgaged the following property:

"Brown horse called Bill, Bay horse called Tom, Goodnow mare, Bay horse called Fort Horse, Loring bay horse, Bruce gray horse, Temple white horse, Huntoon gray horse, Kimball gray horse, Chestnut horse called Sprig, Sorrel horse called Gutts, Fleming gray horse, Black horse called Bluebeard, 11 harnesses, some used, two new; one eight horse wagon built by myself; one eight horse wagon called Kilburn waggon; four six horse sleds nearly new and one two horse sleigh, being the two teams with harness, waggons, etc., which myself and brother Ebenezer now drive between this and Boston."



In 1852 Joseph Cushing sold the farm to William B. Mason, son of Joseph Jr.; 1863 to Joseph Allen of Surry. His wife was Cory Lyna, daughter of George Washington Allen, a Civil War veteran, who lived at the top of Tucker Hill in North Walpole. He was a fireman for the Cheshire Railroad 1882-5, in the days of the wood-burners. It looks as if her father financed the farm. She sold in 1868 to George H. Gassett; 1875 to Charles G. Crain of Surry; 1906 to Clinton W. Tenney of Surry; 1942 to Fred R. and Vernie M. Trombley; 1947 to Arthur C. Handy; 1949 to present owners.

This farm has remained through the years the same 104 acre tract except for a period while Britton or the Allens owned. It then included the piece north to the main road.

The buildings stand on the west side of the old county road at the point where the old 3rd New Hampshire Turnpike continues straight southerly, while the old county road veers somewhat more westerly.

The plot of the road survey 1824 indicates that David Cushing's house might have been where there is said to be a cellarhole opposite Patnode's barn, but it is doubtful whether that was Cushing land.

360. GALEN TIFFANY—JOSLIN CELLARHOLE: In 1775 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to Phinehas Wright 100 acres west from the county road south of Patnode's, 177½ rods along the Westmoreland line. At that time Benoni Farnam owned the place over the line in Westmoreland. In 1789 John White abutted on the Westmoreland line, and Phinehas Wright (Zelpah) had removed to Keene when he sold to Daniel Joslin land and buildings here; 1798 Daniel, gentleman, to Peter Joslin Jr. of Winchendon, Mass. The Samuel Joslin on the next place west, 1790-2, was also from Winchendon. By road records, Peter Jr. was here at least as early as 1797. In 1807 Joslin sold to Silas Whitney (Hannah), Ashburnham, Mass., and removed to Surry. His grandson, George Joslin, later resided on Wentworth Road.

Whitney also acquired the rest of the Bellows land adjoining to the east; 1823 to Samuel Grant, Whitney returning to Ashburnham. He had probably lived at the Joslin farm, since the present road to Keene had just been laid when he sold to Grant. There seems to have been buildings in 1846 when Benjamin Bellows Grant bought out the rights of the other heirs, but none are shown on the 1858 map, and in 1863 when Grant sold to Gilbert T. Stevens it was referred to as the Joslin lot. It now belongs to Galen Tiffany who had from his father, who had bought from Addie M. Clement, who had it from her father, Albert Chickering. He bought 1898 from the Stevens heirs.

361. SEVEN BARNS—ELMER L. MACKENZIE: Benjamin Smith owned this land early, but it appears to be another unfulfilled contract. He must have settled for the Whitney farm. At any rate, in 1772 Benjamin Bellows sold this large tract, 460 acres, to Benjamin Bellows Jr.

In 1804 Phebe Bellows deeded her dower rights in "farm called the lower end of Town Farm lying on Westmoreland line and is same on which Nathaniel Smith now lives" to Caleb Bellows and Samuel and Phebe Grant; 1808 to Silas Whitney, who had already bought the Joslin place; 1823 Whitney sold it back to the Grants. About that time the new Keene road as now travelled was built.

According to the *History of Surry*, the buildings of "Seven Barns" originally stood on the 3rd N. H. Turnpike (which was about 50 rods east of the old county road). After the new road was built, they were moved to a position near the site of the Johnson potato storage. There is no indication that anyone lived at the original site after 1823.

After Major Samuel Grant came into possession of the property, *AH* says "he engaged in sheep husbandry, keeping as many as a thousand at a time on the farm, and employing considerable help to care for them. With his help he was honorable, but very exacting, carrying his points of nicety to the extreme, it is said; not allowing, for instance, his men to step upon his grass while curing. He was a model farmer for orderly arrangement, but the income of his farm was not commensurate with the nicety of its appearance." In 1840 he is said to have raised 3200 bushels of "long-john" potatoes. Bradley Britton and another man had the daily stint of digging and putting into the cellar 150 bushels. Other foremen here through the years were William Kingsbury in 1847, Charles Abbott and John B. Beckwith about 1854.

There were the seven barns from which the farm derived its name and a large substantial house for the foreman.

Sept. 15, 1866, Benjamin B. Grant, who had acquired the property from the other members of the family, sold the place in several parcels. At that time there were at least five barns on the place. In 1930 R. N. Johnson brought back together the tillage land and developed a vast potato field with storage building near the Keene Road. This building burned. MacKenzies of Keene bought 1956.

362. MASON CELLARHOLE ON TURNPIKE: In 1779 Benjamin Bellows Jr. deeded to Benjamin Smith, yeoman, 98½ acres in the north corner of the tract east side of the 1774 county road (a part of what Smith seems to have owned previously). Probably Smith's buildings were on the county road near the southwest corner of his farm. We found a well there, but did not identify any foundations.

In 1794 Smith sold the farm to Moses Mason of Sherburn, Mass. By



probate records (1807), we find that his wife was Olive and their children: Simon; Becka (Rebecca), married Amasa Carpenter; Seth; Esther, married Gaius Hall; Juda; Gregory; Henry. Mason, who probably removed to Westmoreland, sold farm 1801 to Elijah Mason, possibly a relative.

Elijah died sometime before March 1808 for there is a probate record of his estate at that time. His widow Hannah seems to have married Timothy Crehore. Children of Elijah and Hannah were Hannah, died before 1808; Elijah; John; Samuel; Me-en; Peter.

The farm was divided among them. The 3rd N. H. Turnpike had been built, cutting across this farm from north to south, turning out of the present road more easterly at Patnodes'. Probably the Masons erected new buildings on the turnpike. The house stood on the west side of the highway, the barns on the east. In the settlement of the estate the widow had 11 acres in the northwest corner of the farm and the part between the old county road and the turnpike "with dwelling house and small barn, corn house, hay house, other heirs to use easternmost barn". Peter and Elijah seem to have had the middle part of the farm, and Samuel the eastern part on what is now the main road. Elijah seems to have been living at his mother's place on the old turnpike in 1825. (Turnpike from his place to town line was to be fenced in 1825.)

363. FLOYD C. PETERSON: Samuel Mason had erected buildings, now Floyd Peterson's, after the new county road was laid in 1822. The old buildings at #362 were still there in 1834, gone by 1858. In 1825 Peter Mason bought Elijah's farm, in 1828 Samuel's right in his mother's share (she must have died), and in 1833 Samuel's farm.

In 1863 Peter sold the farm to Joseph Allen of Surry, who immediately sold to Salem and Haskell Towne. Haskell owned it for the rest of his life, and John Fred Whitney purchased it from his estate in 1911; 1960 to present owners. It is said that the ell of this house was originally one of the houses on the other county road or the turnpike. Many a jolly party was held here by the Townes; in 1894 they had a surprise party, with dancing, 80 people.

364. CELLARHOLE NEAR #359: In 1782 Benjamin Smith sold 21½ acres in the northwest corner of his farm (from a point about opposite the Patnodes'—north 20 rods to Eliphalet Fox's land) to Solomon Boynton, cordwainer. He apparently built a house; July 1783 sold to Eliphalet Fox; September 1783 to Barnabas Willey. It now goes with the Crehore property. We were unable to find the cellarhole.

365. JOHN DAVENPORT CREHORE II: In 1773 Eliphalet Fox, bricklayer, of Lunenburg, Mass., bought this farm from Benjamin Bellows; 1795 to Ebenezer Crehore who had come to Walpole as early as 1780.

Crehore first lived in the village, working as a "joyner". He had a wood lathe in his shop on the south bank of Mad Brook about 100 feet west of Main Street. There remains a trace of a stone abutment to mark the spot. Warren and Alvin Colburn "were the last owners of this old lathe, which they superseded by modern machinery in 1912 when they built the barn nearby, now owned by Mrs. William Lane, as a complete woodworking shop. On the old lathe Crehore turned the spindles for the pew ends for the old town meeting house on Prospect Hill. . . . Identical banisters for the elegant balustrades of a number of houses in Walpole, the first being turned for the Spitzli house, indicate that Ebenezer made a template which he used for his own work as well as for banisters he must have sold to other builders. The banisters are of this model in the fine home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cutter on Prospect Hill."

Charles Crehore inherited farm from father Ebenezer in 1819. His widow, Lucy Bowker Crehore, married Luther Proctor and they remained on the farm. In 1877 her oldest son John Davenport Crehore, an engineer in Cleveland, Ohio, bid in the property; in 1884, to his widow Lucy Williams Crehore who died 1930. She left it to her daughter Mary Crehore Bedell. She died 1936, leaving it to her husband Frederick for the benefit of Crehore descendants; 1937 to daughter Caroline Bedell Thomas; 1946 to John Davenport Crehore II. With his family he retired to the place in 1946. Thus the place has been owned by the Crehores since 1795.

Out of this property Fox had sold what is now the Carpenter Hill Cemetery.

According to Crehore family tradition, they allowed the town to build Schoolhouse #8 on their land "on condition that if the school was not used for a period of twenty years, the land should revert. . . ." John Davenport Crehore taught in this school beginning November 20, 1848, but did not state in his diary that the school was new, although he called it 'our' or 'my' school. . . ." About 1900 the school had not been used for over twenty years, the pupils having been shifted to Christian Hollow School. In the winter of 1909, several quite young children walked to school from the Merriam and the Haskell Towne farms, both two miles from Christian Hollow. In 1901 the land was bid in and returned to the Crehore property.

366. SALEM TOWNE FARM—DOROTHY M. STRAETZ: Eliphalet Fox owned part of this farm in 1777, but James Lewis seems to be the one who brought it together as a farm from 1780 to 1787. He was a housewright and had a house here as early as 1787; 1802 to Caleb Bugbee of Woodstock, Conn., 83½ acres; 1814 to Nathaniel Davenport of Milton, Mass.; 1818 to Thomas Allen; 1823 to Henry S. Allen of Canton, Mass. The property came back to Davenport who sold 1833 to Leander and Albert



Crain; 1834 to Robert Austin of Gilsum; 1846 to Haskell Austin; 1848 to Salem Towne; 1900 heirs to George C. Towne; 1902 his estate to Harry Jennison; 1904 to Margaret S. Cameron, a granddaughter of Henry T. Allen; 1909 to Clifford L. Sturtevant; 1909 to Josie S. Wilber; 1914 to James T. Melvin, land and buildings; 1951 to his daughter Dorothy M. Straetz and her husband Ralph A., of Oxford, Ohio.

The buildings stood well back on the north side of the road, with fields extending to the north.

367. RICHARD MERRIAM MILL: In 1788 Richard Merriam (second son of John Sr.) bought from Thomas Bellows what later came to be known as the Crehore pasture, next west of his father's place, north side of Merriam Road to Surry. Richard had a sawmill on the brook and must have had a house and barn. In 1797 sold to Allen Watkins, reserving the mill, which he sold to Watkins in 1798; 1801 to Elnathan Newton; 1805 to Allen Watkins; 1807 to Thomas Drew for \$1200; 1811 to Samson Drury for \$400, indicating that the buildings (mill and/or house) may have been destroyed; 1811 to Caleb Bugbee; 1813 to Ebenezer Crehore.

Richard Merriam removed to Hartland, Vermont.

368. MERRIAM FARM: In 1773 Benjamin Bellows sold to John Merriam, blacksmith, of Littleton, Mass., 50 acres along the Surry line and in 1776 an additional 12 acres south of the first. When Merriam came here, it is said to have been a wilderness except for a plot on the knoll east of the buildings erected in later years. He is said to have come in November, cleared six acres and sowed to winter wheat the same season. This tract was the nucleus of a 300 acre farm, still in the family.

"At the time of the Battle of Bennington a courier was dispatched to inform him that soldiers would pass his house on their way to the scene of conflict and he must prepare to furnish them with water, the next day. Accordingly every available vessel that would hold water was filled from his well and ready for use. The following day 3,000 soldiers drank and filled their canteens from his well, and passed on to Col. Josiah Goldsmith's tavern. . . ." *AH* 331.

No doubt this was the early road from the settlement at Keene cut in 1738 by the original proprietors of No. 3. Men under Joffe had marched this way in 1759 on their way to No. 4 to complete the east end of the Crown Point Road across Vermont.

369. MERRIAM SMALL HOUSE: John Merriam is supposed to have built his house higher up on the hill north of the later buildings, although he seems to have had a blacksmith shop by the road. In 1781 he deeded the farm to his son, John Jr., who probably ran the farm, building another barn near the original, and a house for himself to the southeast, on the

other side of the road. In 1786 and in 1791 he deeded back to his father the main part of the farm (37 acres), reserving for himself his house, land east and a lot to the north of the home farm, having purchased it from Josiah Bellows. Apparently he did not make out too well financially, since he mortgaged the property to Thomas Drew and lost it.

Drew sold to Ezekial Graves (Nancy), who owned 1807-14. Ezekial had died then, and Abner Graves sold the property to Daniel Merriam, reserving one half for Nancy for life.

In 1797 John Merriam Sr. had deeded the home farm to his son Daniel who moved his father's house to a new location west of the most recent site, and resided there many years. He spent his last years in the little house which he had bought from Graves, probably retiring and letting Daniel Jr. run the farm. Daniel Jr. built a new house in 1837. This was a large set of buildings with house and barn connected. The house was white, had a porch with white pillars, with lilacs and roses growing roundabout. There must have been a most pleasing view to the south across the meadow beyond the road, especially with the maples in full color in the fall.

Daniel Jr. sold the place in 1862 to his son Ellery R. of Boston, reserving the small place; 1876 to his brother Elmore E. As late as 1923 he was occupying the place in the summer. Now the last remains of the house have fallen into the cellar and the lilacs, roses and maples have taken over, while a neighbor's cows graze in the fields and around the cellarhole. In 1940 Irving R. Merriam of Dorchester, Mass., bought "with all buildings thereon."

## DERRY HILL

In 1781 Col. William Heywood of Charlestown surveyed the main part of the Atkinson Tract on Derry Hill, laying it out in twenty-two lots of approximately 100 acres each. The north-south dividing lines were parallel with the east line of the town, north by the needle. The east-west lines were parallel with the south line of the town (N.  $78^{\circ}$ W) and began at the south line of the Atkinson Tract which was two miles from the south line of the town. There were four rows of lots, extending 660 rods along the east line. Heywood did not survey the north part of the tract. The total distance of the Atkinson Tract along the east line of the town (according to the Atkinson-Bellows deed 1766) was 960 rods. The north line of the tract was "W  $12^{\circ}$  N 170 rods to corner of Lot No. one in the Easternmost Range of Lots," although the Bellows plan shows this line W  $12^{\circ}$  S.



Heywood estimated the total area of the 22 lots to be 2,303 acres, Bellows and Atkinson estimated 2,764 acres (including the additional four 100 acre lots in the north part). Heywood rated each lot as to quality, and finally stated "The 4 North Lots (of the 22) are in my opinion the best situated for a farm." For his work, which took 21½ days, he rendered a bill for 4 £, 15 Sh., July 16, 1781. The first lot was sold the following October. Theodore Atkinson, George Atkinson, and John Sparhawk had died. John's widow, Abigail, and Daniel Humphreys, guardian of William King Atkinson, and finally William himself, sold the lots.

There are some discrepancies in the drawing of the Atkinson Derry Hill Tract. The northwest corner *should be* at the corner of Lot 1 in the east range. The jog in the west line should be at the end of the boundary line coming down from the northwest corner of Drury and Parker (1781). We have drawn the lines as best we could from the survey, then fitted them to the lot lines and roads shown in the aerial photograph.

The earlier records refer to this area as Atkinson Hill, but it soon came to be known as Derry Hill since most of the settlers were from Londonderry, New Hampshire. This little colony was Scotch Irish, their ancestors having immigrated from the north of Ireland. These were families of frugal and industrious habits and sparing economy. By their patient industry in a few years the forests were cleared and what is now impoverished land produced an abundance for man and beast. The families flourished—Moore, Barnetts, Dickeys, Cochran, Ramsays, Marshes and Drurys. The children grew up and most of them departed to make their mark elsewhere. Some of the last of those who stayed failed to marry. There is not now a single set of buildings and only some of the Dickey land is still farmed. For some years these farms were pastured, but the practice ceased because of thefts.

The north tier of lots came to be known as Fay Hill for Deacon Holland Fay who lived there for so many years. He was preceded in ownership there by Ingalls and Bundy. There were formerly three farms there, now all in the Webb farm.

The north corner of the tract on the March Hill Road was bought by the Morrisons and is still farmed.

In the western part of the tract the early settlers were Capt. John Emery in Lot #13 and Levi Fay in #20.

Previous to the settling of Derry Hill there was a sawmill in March Hollow, just west of the west line of the Atkinson Tract. (Josiah Hubbard and Asahel Bundy built, John Bellows sold 1779 to Phineas Hutchins.)

Jonathan Royce owned about 1793. The road to it may have turned out of the 1781 road in Gerald Hill's pasture and followed up the brook to March Hollow.

By 1793 a road had been opened from the mill up over the hill by Capt. Emery's farm, Dickeys' and Barnetts' to the Surry line. There is no record of this road, but other road descriptions refer to it as early as 1793.

Also in 1793 a road was opened from the mill to the Asahel Bundy hill farm (now Von Lackum), then on to Fay Hill and the Alstead line.

The same year a road was also opened from the mill to Jonathan Royce's on Maple Grove Road (Malcolm Williams).

The first road up to Derry Hill from the south was from the Keene Road in District #5 along the west line of the Atkinson Tract, then east to Levi Fay's farm, Lot #20, 1791.

In August 1793 a road was opened from the Widow Fay's on the Keene Road (Floyd Jennison) across Nathan Bundy's land and Dr. Kittredge's to the west line of William Ramsay's (owned by Aaron Allen). There are foundations of old buildings here. From here one branch followed the lot line north, then northwest, to meet the 1791 road at Fay's. The main road continued northeast past the old Harry Jennison place on the left, then the Gassett place on the right, to the east line of #17. It continued north, more or less along the lot line, until it came into the Emery Road on Emery's west line. (We haven't found this road.) At the lot corners (15, 16, 17, 18), another branch continued northeast to Thomas Moore's house (toward Dickeys') in northwest corner #10. This last road seems to have been surveyed and extended into the Emery Road August 1795.

Of all the roads which lead to Derry Hill, only the one laid north from Christian Hollow in 1828 is now passable. In the words of John Prentiss "This whole region including the Cochran farm is now a wilderness. Not a house remains, yet on my first appraisal in 1883 there were a goodly number of horses, cattle and sheep.

"I have good reason to remember this. Herbert Watkins started on the trip with a horse and sleigh. The snow was so deep we left the team at Ed Smith's and walked. At the Cochran place, finding no one at home, we went into the stable and as I walked behind a pair of Oxen, one of them kicked, hitting me on the shin bone. Why it didn't break I don't know, but I will never forget the agony of getting back to the team at Smith's."

370. LOT #1: On October 26, 1791, Zebulon Streeter, a shoemaker and Universalist lay preacher of Surry, bought this lot from Daniel Humphreys for £72, supposed to be 100 acres (later found to be  $89\frac{3}{4}$  acres); Heywood described it as "a middling good lot." It lies on a north slope



next to the Surry line and has reverted to forest except for a field or two which have not been farmed for many years. There is a cellarhole east of the road, driveway on the south side of the house leading to sheds and/or barns. (All gone.) A second house was supposed to have been built near the first one sometime before 1850. On the 1858 map the house is shown, but it had apparently been removed before 1877. According to *History of Surry*, George Rand bought the old house about 1869 and rebuilt in Surry. Across the road are the leavings from a portable sawmill.

Nov. 25, 1791, Streeter sold to Henry Scoval (Scovill) of Surry. In 1795 Scovill also bought from Josiah Bellows 115 acres next south of Lot #1 (all wooded now), and in 1796 he bought 37 acres in the south part of Lot #8.

Henry Scovill, farmer and shoemaker, came from Connecticut to Surry as early as 1784. In 1812 he sold one-half interest in the buildings and the land on the west side of the road to his son Frederick, and in 1826 the rest of the land. Frederick served from Walpole in the War of 1812, a private in Col. Josiah Bellows' Company for 60 days in 1814. He was a "good citizen, content to reap the rewards of honest labor." He removed to Surry in 1867.

In 1840 Frederick Scovill sold to David J. Goodridge of Royalston, Mass., but took back in 1847. In 1867 Frederick sold the farm to Lorenzo D. Pressey; 1894 to Addison Miller; 1894 to Harry J. Jennison; 1916 to Wilcox & Wilber; 1948 to Joseph R. and Ida M. Kelley; 1950 to George E. Putnam of Walpole.

371. LOT #2: October 29, 1793, George King Sparhawk for £90 sold Lot #2 to Daniel Marsh of Londonderry. Heywood called it "middling good."

Judging by what remains, it was a prosperous farm. The land sloped away south of the buildings, but to the north and west there were ample fields. The house was large and long with narrow end to the road. Midway is the foundation of the big old chimney. Blue garden grapes still ramble wildly over the old foundations. Large barns stood north of the house.

The heirs of Farnham Marsh sold 1887 to John Selkirk; 1896 to Olive S. Hatch; 1899 to John Selkirk (land and buildings); 1900 to Edward S. Taggard; 1902 to John H. Taggard. (Later transfers not found.)

372. LOT #3: October 27, 1790, Daniel Humphreys of Portsmouth, guardian of George K. Sparhawk, for £100 sold to John Barnett, late of





HASTINGS HOUSE about 1900 (#113)

*(Watkins)*



HOLLAND HOUSE about 1910 (#63)





BRIDGE MANSION about 1915 (#252)

*(Watkins)*



ROENTSCH HOUSE about 1915 (#283)

*(Watkins)*





BATES COTTAGE about 1950 (#97)



MITCHELL HOUSE before 1895 (#165)





PATCH HOUSE about 1940 (#528)



BABBITT HOUSE about 1955 (#313)

(Harris)





WATKINS HOUSE about 1890 (#389)



HOUGHTON HOUSE in 1896 (#310)  
Abby Houghton, Jennie Selkirk Houghton





HOLLAND-HUBBARD HOUSE before 1900 (#38)



THE ELMWOOD about 1900 (#71)





THE COUNTRY CLUB ON KEENE ROAD (1914-26) (#215)  
Formerly Homestead Golf Club House on Amory Land (1899-1914)



6TH TEE ON LINKS OF HOMESTEAD GOLF CLUB before 1914





VIEW OF NORTH WALPOLE between 1882 and 1912

(*B. F. Lib.*)



RUSSELL HALL AFTER THE FIRE Jan. 29, 1949 (#N117)

(*B. F. Times*)





MOUNTAIN HOUSE, FORMERLY DREW TAVERN, IN DREWSVILLE before 1907 (#628)



MOUNTAIN HOUSE IN DREWSVILLE AFTER FIRE in 1907 (#628)





THE MANSION IN DREWSVILLE about 1900 (#640)



PRENTISS' STORE IN DREWSVILLE about 1955 (#615)





DREWSVILLE SCHOOLCHILDREN about 1910



DISTRICT SCHOOL NUMBER ONE  
until 1854 (#58)



JONAS TUFTS HOUSE about 1910 (#1)





NUMBER SIX SCHOOL



CHILDREN AT NUMBER ELEVEN SCHOOL about 1900





NUMBER FOUR SCHOOL



CHILDREN AT NUMBER NINE SCHOOL about 1894





WALPOLE HIGH SCHOOL in 1955 (#21)

(Harris)



Hooper School  
Walpole, N. H.

HOOPER SCHOOL ON PROSPECT HILL in 1955

(Harris)



Londonderry. Heywood called it "middling good." Barnett's buildings were at the east end of the road along the top of Derry Hill at the point where it curves to the south. Just around the curve east of the road is a small cellarhole where Barnett probably built his first house. According to a highway survey that was where he was living in 1802. Probably when he became more prosperous, or when his family increased, he built larger buildings on the north side of the road, just before the turn. There was apparently a large house with cellar under the west end, the well at the east end, now filled with stones; barn to the west.

February 25, 1822, as Barnett was driving a team pulling a sled-load of wood, he stumbled and fell under the sled. One runner passed over his neck and killed him. Apparently his son Robert carried on the farm until his death in 1861, having bought out Eliza, Fanny, Sophronia, John, and Mary Jane. His widow, Harriet Gilmore Barnett, sold 1861 to William T. Ramsay; 1907 estate to Fred A. Ramsay; 1951 gift to his son Charles F. and Jane T. Ramsay; 1957 to Thomas F. Johnson.

373. LOT #4: October 7, 1790, Daniel Humphreys for £125 sold to John Ingalls (Hannah) Lot #4, lying on the next hill north of Lot #3. Heywood called it "good land." Aldrich does not mention Ingalls, although there are references to him in the town records. His house stood north of the road near the Surry line.

John Ingalls Jr. (Clarissa) inherited from his father; 1835 to Holland Fay; 1837 to Oliver S. Fay (Deborah S.); 1853 to George W. Wilson from Boston; 1894 to Mary K. Wier; 1897 estate to Edwin J. Stevens; 1956 to Charles R. Webb (Ethel W.), who own the rest of Fay Hill.

Wilson's barn burned April 1877. House still stands, weatherbeaten and deserted. Walter Stevens was the last to reside here.

374. LOT #5: October 7, 1790, Daniel Humphreys sold for £150 to Elias Bundy. Heywood called it "middling good." In 1792-3 Bundy sold to John Carlisle; 1793 to Holland Fay, who may have been the first to reside here, added to the farm extensively. He was deacon of the old church for many years and was familiarly known as Deacon Fay.

Holland Fay had four sons. Calvin, the oldest, removed to Prattstown, New York; Luther, who had various divisions of the farm with his father, probably erected the buildings next west of the family homestead. He committed suicide in 1830, so his father had to start all over again in dividing his property. The youngest son Oliver S. had the old Ingalls farm next on the east. The third son, Holland Dana, carried on



the home farm, followed by his son Josiah B., who resided here with his mother until they and the other heirs sold in 1875 to James Selkirk; 1920 to Alvi T. Baldwin; 1928 to R. N. Johnson; 1956 to Charles Webb.

Luther's set of buildings Holland Fay sold 1840 to John Barnett, his brother-in-law. The buildings may have been there as late as 1892.

375. LOT #6: October 7, 1790, Daniel Humphreys for £100 deeded Lot #6 to George Barnett, Londonderry, brother of John. The land lay for the most part north of the road along the height of land. In 1799, Barnett and Matthew Dickey swapped some land. Barnett acquired 24 acres south of the road, and sold to Dickey 21 acres from the west side of his lot. Heywood called it "middling good."

None of the Barnett children stayed on the farm. In 1824 estate sold to Jesseniah Kittredge; 1830 to Matthew Dickey; 1835 to Clement S. Dickey (Betsey P.); 1862 to Isaiah Pratt (Vilinda); 1867 to Isaac P. Pratt; 1912 to William H. Fletcher; 1935 other heirs to Albert Fletcher.

On the north side of the road there is a large cellarhole full of lovely large white birches. There were probably sheds to the east, then large barns.

The house and barns were completely destroyed by fire Nov. 25, 1906, one of few remaining houses on Derry Hill.

School house for District #7 was in this lot, north side of road, west of the Pratt house.

376. LOT #7: February 15, 1796, George King Sparhawk sold the south 30 acres to John and Nathaniel Cross for £30. The north part seems to have gone to Matthew Dickey in 1798 and to have been absorbed into the places to the north. Cross sold to Daniel and John Marsh, the latter living east of the road north of the Cochran place; 1801 to John Adams of Franklin, Mass. What ever buildings there may have been disappeared long ago. The land was absorbed into other homesteads.

LOT #8: The Crosses had bought this lot also in 1794. This lot too has been absorbed into other properties. According to our map, which is based on surveys, the Cochran buildings were in the northwest corner of the lot, where they seem to belong, but the deeds favor their location in the northeast corner of Lot #9.

377. LOT #9: May 9, 1790, Daniel Humphrey, guardian of George King Sparhawk, sold Lot #9 for £95 to George Cochran of Londonderry. Heywood rated it as "middling good land." This family is said to have



brought the old Irish white potatoes with them and continued to plant them for many years.

The buildings nestled in a sharp bend in the road. The farm is still in the family, belonging to the children (Picard) of a daughter of Samuel Cochran.

According to the *History of Surry* (257-8), "a tornado hit this farm Sunday afternoon, August 4, 1822. Two barns were demolished, the house damaged, and 20 acres of woodland ruined. The fields are now growing up and the buildings in a state of collapse."

378. LOT #10: July 15, 1789, Daniel Humphreys sold to Thomas Moore for £110 Lot #10, "middling good lot," Heywood estimated. Moore also bought the east half of #15 which joined his land on the west. The buildings stood southeast of the road about a half mile down the hill to the west of the Dickey place, only cellarhole and foundations now. The four-corners at the top of the hill between Dickey's and Moore's was known as Moore's Corner. Thomas Moore was an industrious man and spent the rest of his life on this farm, followed by his son John, unmarried.

In 1848 his estate to Stephen Fay; 1849 to Clement S. Dickey. The land is now neglected but not as grown up as some. The barn was still here as late as 1920.

379. LOT #11: December 9, 1793, Matthew Dickey bought from George King Sparhawk for £95 Lot #11. In 1798 he bought #7, and later exchanged some land with his neighbors, Barnett on the east and Emery on the west. Heywood rated this "middling land," but it is the only land on this hill still under cultivation and yielding good crops.

Lewis Dickey remained on the farm, unmarried, left it to brother Clement; Clement left to his son Albert. It now belongs to Albert's step-grandson, Albert W. Kingsbury (Martha F.).

There was a large white house with capacious barns some distance north of the highway, commanding a wide view across the valley to the northwest and to the distant hills and Mt. Ascutney. Many had taken refuge here when overtaken by showers, and many have spread here their picnics. The buildings burned October 1883.

380. DUNSMOOR (DINSMORE) CELLARHOLE IN LOT #11: In 1799 for \$133.67 Matthew Dickey sold to John Emery, gentleman, 21½ acres, the west side of Lot #11. The road through this piece was laid out 1822, Sampson Drury owning this land at that time. There is no note of a homestead on this road until Newell, on his 1900 map, noted S. Dinsmore on the



west side of the road. It is said to have been a long, low red house (or unpainted).

John Prentiss wrote "Starting on the Derry Hill Road, the first house was that of Stansbury Dinsmore. He raised a large family which he supported by working out for farmers by the day. He had a nice lot of grape vines and fruit trees on his small place. He had an alert mind though a little eccentric. He worked for William Ramsay frequently, and Fred tells of the time Stansbury had the 'black measles'. As he started to get better, the doctor told him a little gin would do him no harm. His uncle staying with him was going to the village and allowed he would get it for him and asked him how much to get. Stansbury considered and replied, 'I'd think a gallon would be little enough.'"

This place was in the west part of Lot #11 which Dickey sold to John Emery. Alonzo Jennings acquired it when he bought the Emery farm (see Lot #14). In 1857 Jennings sold to James T. Holmes a 4½ acre plot here west of the road for \$100. After various exchanges Stansbury Dinsmore had 6 acres here; 1906 widow Abby to son Willis H.; 1907 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1908 to Chauncey E. Knowlton (resided here); 1920 to Frank M. Wilder of Somerville, Mass., land and buildings; 1923 to Grace L. Fisher; 1924 to Herbert H. Moore of Narberth, Pa.; 1926 to Martha A. L. Allbee; 1931 to Albert C. Morrow, land and buildings. He was the last to live here.

381. LOT #12: July 16, 1789, Daniel Humphreys sold for £150 to Isaac Bundy Lot #12 on Fay Hill, "a middling good lot." Bundy may have improved, sold all but north 15 acres 1795 to Jonathan Grout of Peter-sham, Mass.; 1796 to Benjamin Bellows 2nd and Mary Bellows; 1798 to Sherburne Hale the south 71 acres; 1802 to Allen Watkins (Patty); 1805 to Thomas C. Drew; 1813 to Samson Drury; 1814 to Stephen Johnson; 1815 to John Thurston Jr., Fitchburg, Mass. (wife Roxey); 1824 to John Marshall; 1839 to John Barnett; 1840 to John Marshall (Hannah); 1857 to John W. Marshall; 1882 to Oliver Martin; 1882 to Harrison G. Barnes; 1907 other heirs to Charles H. Barnes; 1916 to Marie Justine Fleitman of Darien, Conn.; 1921 to A. T. Baldwin, New York City, and it became a part of what is now the Webb farm.

John Marshall's house was on the north side of the Fay Hill Road near the east line of the lot, probably gone before 1892, not even a cellarhole now. John Marshall had previously lived down near Kathan place on Rt. 12; his son John W. in 1882 went down to Rt. 12, #265.

382. LOT #13: Nov. 20, 1790, Daniel Humphreys sold Lot #13 to Asahel Bundy for £150, "middling good land"; his son Joseph was occupying



1814 when Asahel sold to Abel Downe; 1817 to Eli Hosmer, 2nd; 1823 to Edmund Marsh; 1871 to Esdras Smith; his children had after him; 1919 to Eva M. Royce; 1927 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1938 to Dr. Wm. H. Von Lackum (Lena).

South of the March Hill Road Henry Hildreth owns small piece of land where he lives. This is part of Bundy farm.

The buildings stood on the hill, the house still on the north side of the old March Hill Road, the barn, now gone, on the south. This was referred to as Asahel Bundy's Hill Farm.

383. LAWRENCE FRENCH—SOUTH PART OF LOT #13: This place is north of road to Derry Hill, laid 1822, no house here before 1900. The cellarhole of the first house was farther up the hill than location of the present house. Frank Palmer, son-in-law of Stansbury Dinsmore, built the first house which burned.

384. LOT #14: July 16, 1789, Daniel Humphreys sold Lot #14 to Elias Bundy for £25. On Oct. 7, 1790, Elias sold for £150 to Capt. John Emery "late of Londonderry, now of Walpole". According to the *History of Surry* Elias Bundy removed to that town. Heywood rated this lot "middling good."

Nov. 6, 1806, Emery sold his home farm of 140 acres to Samson Drury who also owned at that time the farm on which Malcolm Williams (1962) now lives. Probably he lived at one place and his father, Manoah (Martha), the other. In 1822 Drury mortgaged both places to Dr. Sparhawk. In 1829 Anan Evans became the owner of the farm, selling in 1830 to Sterry Clark, trader, of Providence, R. I.; 1841 to Reuben Parsons of New York City; 1854 to Frederick Watkins (Sarah Ann); 1854 to Alonzo Jennings; 1886 to J. Stratton Walker of Langdon.

It appears from various bits of information that Anan Evans may have lived elsewhere since this is referred to as his hill farm. There is no evidence that Clark resided in Walpole; Evans probably worked the farm.

The house, about 25' x 25', stood north of the road in a curve at the height of land, the well north of the house. The house was here 1800, the barn still here 1840 since Evans had hay stored in it.

LOT #15: April 4, 1801, William King Atkinson of Dover sold the west 50 acres of Lot #15 to George Sparhawk and on June 8, 1801, the east half of the lot to Thomas Moore. This was rated as "middling land", but we have no record that anyone ever settled on the lot.



385. LOT #16: In 1789 Daniel Humphreys gave Abigail, widow of John Sparhawk, £11 for this lot, and eight days later sold it for £70 to Robert Gilchrist and Winslow Warren of Walpole; 1790 they sold to Aaron Allen; 1794 to Peter Moore for £180. Peter Moore is mentioned in road records in this area and may have built a dwelling, but he didn't stay in Walpole very long. In 1797 Jehoida Moore sold the north part of the lot to Nathaniel Baker (see 344), having previously sold the south 50 acres to Edward Watkins.

Heywood considered this "good land," but it is all forest now.

In 1836 Wm. Arnold sold to Simeon Ballou; and if there was not already a house here, he must have built one. In 1841 Ballou sold to Samuel W. Griffin; 1857 to Jonas Gassett; 1857-59 Recompense Hall owned the place, then Gassett again; 1868 Lewis Dickey; 1868 Lucy Leonard. Wallace Leonard sold this in 1955 along with other tracts to Charles L. Austin.

The house stood on the south side of the road. There is now a beautiful spreading spruce growing out of the cellarhole. Probably no one has lived here since 1868.

LOT #17: Oct. 18, 1791, the Atkinson heirs sold to Aaron Allen. In 1797 a deed referred to it as "Aaron Allen's lot on which William Ramsay now lives." Road surveys refer to it as William Ramsay's land, but there is no record that he ever owned it. Heywood rated it "middling good land."

Allen sold to Thomas Moore; 1803 to Ephraim Drury who lived here; 1810 to Samson Drury and Ephraim Sherman Jr.; 1812 to John Ramsay and Eli Russell, the former taking the west half, the latter the east half.

386. HENRY JENNISON CELLARHOLE: In 1812 Eli Russell sold the east half of the lot #17 to Jonathan Jennison Jr. who remained here the rest of his life. His house stood at the head of the road from the Hollow (laid 1828) where it came into the old road from Watkins Hill to Derry Hill. Jonathan was followed by his son Henry, he by his son Josiah who sold in 1867 to Lucy Leonard; 1893 to her brother Rufus; 1902 his widow to their son Willie G.; his son, Wallace C., sold 1955 to Charles L. and Lucille Maie Austin. The buildings were probably erected by Jonathan Jennison Jr. They were still here 1907, but dilapidated.

387. RAMSAY CELLARHOLE: The west half of Lot #17 John Ramsay sold to William Arnold; 1836 to Simeon Ballou; 1843 to Henry T. Allen; 1847 to Jonas Gassett; 1852 to Alonzo Jennings; 1853 to Mason Fay; 1856 to Harrington Leonard; 1867 to Alonzo Jennings; 1867 to Josiah Jennison;



1867 to Lucy Leonard—Jack Leonard lived here. It remained in the Leonard family until 1955 when Wallace Leonard sold to Charles L. and Lucille Maie Austin.

The house stood north of the road, barns south of road, just east of the point where the 1793 road from Watkins Hill divided. The last indication we have of a house here is the 1858 map.

LOT #18: Oct. 7, 1801, William King Atkinson sold to Levi Fay for \$1100. Heywood called this lot “middling.” It was broken up into smaller lots. Capt. John Emery had the northeast quarter. Asa Sibley had one-eighth on the east line south of Emery, sold to Manoah Drury; 1809 he to Amasa and Oliver Allen. It is all wooded and there is no record of any homestead on it.

LOT #19: Heywood considered this “middling good” land, but, like #18, it seems to have been broken up. There is evidence that Samuel and/or Thomas Parker owned some, also Capt. John Emery owned the east side, Nathan Smith the west with Noah Heaton and perhaps others. No homestead, all wooded.

388. LOT #20: There are two cellarholes here. Close to the road is a large cellarhole with neatly walled banks, lilacs and tawny lilies. To the north is a smaller one. Perhaps Fay built a small house first, and later a larger one. To the north an army of white birches encroaches on the old sloping field. A lumberman’s sawdust pile stands on the south side of the road where there were probably barns.

From here the road dips to cross the brook, then continues southwesterly, downgrade all the way, to the Keene road. This is a much better, wider road than the road up the hill east and south from the Fay place. The latter was surveyed and laid out by the town, but this piece was only referred to in the records as “voted to accept of a road from Levi Fay’s on or near the line between Manoah Drury and Stephen Kittredge to the Great Road”. It is interesting to note that this vote was passed Apr. 27, 1791, while Levi Fay’s deed is dated Oct. 13, 1792.

In 1860 Stephen Fay sold to William Arnold Jr.; 1877 to Frank T. Allen; 1899 to George A. Chickering; 1946 his heir, Florence A. Knight, to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1947 to Evelyn A. and Parker B. Albee; 1948 to Lawrence S. Britton.

LOT #21: May 30, 1787, George Atkinson sold to Francis Kittredge, surgeon, this lot for £100, “middling good” land. This may be considered



the back side of Lot #22 and probably never had any houses on it.

389. LOT #22: (The first of the Atkinson lots to be sold.) George Atkinson of Portsmouth sold, Oct. 5, 1781, to Francis Kittredge, surgeon, of Tewksbury, Mass., Lot #22 for 896 Spanish milled dollars.

Dr. Jesseniah, son of Francis, built the large house on the place.

In 1839 Jesseniah Kittredge sold the farm to Charles Watkins.

He left the property to his son Charles Edward who in turn sold 1894 to his sons Charles H. (called Harmon) and Elmer A. Harmon stayed here; 1935 to Cless G. Davis and Eva Davis Porter; 1937 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1947 to Evelyn A. and Parker S. Albee of N. Sudbury, Mass.; 1948 to Lawrence S. and Yvonne Britton. Land has reverted to pasture.

The north part of the property at the corner of the Fay Road, Francis Kittredge sold to his son Stephen. He died and in 1806 his heirs sold to Ephraim Sherman Jr., whose father had the old Manoah Drury place. In 1811 Ephraim sold to his brother-in-law Alexander Watkins Jr.; 1816 to Alvin Fisher; 1825 to Jesseniah Kittredge; 1842 to Jesseniah Kittredge Kidder; 1843 to Abiah Kidder; 1848 to Joseph Kidder; 1852 to Alonzo Jennings; 1867 to Holland Mason (Susan). It is generally known as the Holland Mason place. His widow in 1879 sold to George Watkins and his daughter Louisa O.; in 1923 to Ruth Murray. Louisa married her cousin Harmon who lived next door and he obtained the place after she died; 1926 Arthur H. Chickering; 1949 to Lawrence and Yvonne Britton. House has about fallen down.

390. FIRST LOT NORTH OF LOT #4: November 7, 1793, George King Sparhawk sold for £15 to William Morrison. It was known as the Thompson Lot and was supposed to be 100 acres. By a road survey in 1802 Morrison's barn stood where the power line crosses the road. Probably his house stood nearby, near the brook.

The land was absorbed into adjoining farms.

391. LOT NEXT NORTH OF LOT #5: July 16, 1789, Daniel Humphreys for £135 sold to Ephraim Kendall of Alstead and Nathaniel Parker of Walpole, this 100 acre lot. It belonged to John Carlisle in 1793; to James Knapp; 1800 to Luther Knowlton from Framingham; 1844 to Elias Knowlton; 1889 to Daniel G. Clark for \$2000; 1896 to Cassius C. Farmer for \$500; 1909 to Ed. T. Stevens for \$600; 1914 to Kusta Winter and Henry Jamsa, Fitchburg; 1916 to William P. Abbott and Walter C.



Hadley of Bellows Falls; 1918 to William F. Hammond; 1921 to George E. and Hildred V. Edwards, now George E. Edwards Jr.

The buildings stood south of the March Hill Road, at some distance up the hill, with a view to the northwest across the Seward pasture and a gap in the hills to the distant Vermont hills, a view unsurpassed even in Walpole. The buildings burned.

392. LOT NEXT NORTH OF #12: Oct. 7, 1790, Daniel Humphreys sold to Aaron Rice, for £42 the west 35 acres in the 95 acre lot next north of #12 and #13, next to the Bellows hill lots. The same day he sold to Samuel March of Londonderry for £72 sixty acres, being the east part of the lot.

In 1793 March sold to Smith Emery of Atkinson, New Hampshire; 1794 to Allen Watkins; 1794 to James Knapp; 1796 to Aaron Hodskins Jr.; 1797 to Joseph Heaton; 1798 to Thomas Buck; 1800 to Noah Heaton; 1800 to David Thompson (see *AH* 367); 1810 to Luke Thurston (*AH* 368); 1833 to Luther D. Knowlton whose father owned the next farm east; 1867 to Andrew Roy; 1882 to William E. Roy; 1921 to Fred A. Moses; 1922 to Henry O. Porter. After his death the property was broken up and the land has been absorbed into adjoining farms.

The buildings on this farm stretched along the north side of the road, clinging to the side of the hill. They burned in the night after Roy sold and only foundations and sumac remain.

The #6 schoolhouse here finally fell in. There had been an earlier school farther east.

The Aaron Rice land, west part of the lot, was sold to Thomas Messer and joined to the farm which he owned on the Maple Grove Road, later owned by Moses Fisher.

393. SECOND LOT NORTH OF #4: June 15, 1790, Daniel Humphreys sold to Samuel Morrison, for £125; 1819 to Samuel Morrison Jr. a one-half interest; 1822 to James C. Cristy of Grafton, Vermont, one-half interest; 1827 Cristy lost on a judgment and one-half interest sold to Benjamin E. Webster who in 1831 bought the other half interest; 1836 to Mark Webster (Eunice Knowlton); 1860 to son Edwin Webster; 1891 to John W. Prentiss; 1894 to Edward T. Stevens who sold to Winter and Jamsa (see #391). Now owned by George Edwards.

SECOND LOT NORTH OF #5: January 29, 1796, George King Sparhawk sold this 100 acre lot in the northwest corner of the Atkinson Tract, east side of Maple Grove Road, to Jonathan Royce. No record of any buildings.



## GRAVES ROAD

394. CHARLES S. MAURICE: LOT #7 IN 5TH RANGE: In 1779 Mary Bellows sold this lot to Roger Farnam; 1816 to Recompense Hall (with exception of west 30 acres which had been sold to Graves); willed to Henry P. Hall; inherited by Jennie L. Hall Hodskins; 1916 Jennie Hodskins of Buffalo, N. Y. to Clifford Sturtevant; 1917 to George Cuzick; 1930 to Arthur Chickering Jr.; 1931 to Mary J. Walker; 1939 to present owners.

395. CALEB FARNAM CELLARHOLE: In 1816 Roger Farnam sold to Caleb Farnam one acre, Caleb already having buildings here; 1821 to Recompense Hall; 1832 to Caleb Farnam; 1843 to Emerson K. Rice of Worcester (wife Maria, daughter of Caleb); 1853 to John C. Farnam for his parents, Caleb and Hannah Farnam to occupy for their natural lives.

Buildings here as late as 1858.

396. JOHN A. STUART: In 1956 Lawrence S. Britton sold this house lot out of the old Stowell farm to John A. Stuart who built the house.

## KINGSBURY ROAD

This was one of the roads surveyed in 1781. It went from the Graves Crossroad, east of Stuart Graves', northeasterly to the then Keene road which at that time passed direct from the Hooper Golf Club through the woods to a point near Lawrence Britton's. The junction was a short distance east of Mrs. Reynolds'. The northeast end of the Kingsbury road was added when the Third N. H. Turnpike was built where the present Keene road is. This road crossed Lots #6 and #5 in the 5th Range, the south part of said lots belonging early to Nathan Watkins and the north to Aaron Hodskins Sr.

397. WILLIAM KINGSBURY: In 1774 Benjamin Bellows sold to Joseph Fay the south 20 acres of #5 in the 5th Range, having bargained the land next north in the lot to Daniel Bixby. In 1779 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to Nathan Watkins 100 acres, including the Fay lot and #6 to the south. Watkins also bought 25 acres of the east end of #8 in the 4th Range from William Moore in 1790 (part of Josiah Griswold lot). In 1797 Nathan gave one-half of his farm to his son Allen who sold in 1800 to his brother Edward. He sold immediately to Aaron Hodskins Jr. who had married his sister Rhoda. Of their children Willard had the old Aaron Hodskins place next north (Reynolds) and Asahel Bundy Hodskins had the home place. His daughter Ellen married George D. Kingsbury who bought the farm. It is still owned by descendants.



398. E. EVERETT RHODES JR.: When Asahel B. Hodskins sold his homestead to his son-in-law, George D. Kingsbury, he reserved 45 acres here and lived on the place the rest of his life; 1888 estate to Oren N. Ramsay; 1924 to Etta F. Rhodes who made it over in 1935 to her son, E. Everett Rhodes Jr.

Buildings burned December 30, 1925, while family was away at a Christmas tree party. Mrs. Rhodes Sr. has northeast house, Everett the other house; both new.

The Kingsburys own an old bridle path which runs from the Everett Rhodes place down through the lot and comes out between the brook and the old Stowell place on Watkins Hill road. It has been used for hauling wood from Hodskins' woodlot on Derry Hill.

399. STAPLES CELLARHOLE: North of the Kingsbury house there is the Jacob Staples lot, northwest of road, the cellarhole a bit east of the middle of the field where bricks keep cropping out. In 1777 Joseph Fay sold 7½ acres here to Stephen Haines "being part of land Jacob Staples lived on."

400. WENTWORTH HUBBARD: This is in the 40 acre lot where Daniel Bixby was living 1777. Benjamin Bellows left it to his daughter Abigail; mortgaged in 1804 to Stephen Rowe Bradley; 1810 to Aaron Hodskins Jr. He and his heirs owned it until William Kingsbury sold two small parcels here 1939 and 1945 to Maurice Robbins. Robbins erected the buildings; 1953 to Wentworth Hubbard.

The Bixby house stood on the opposite side of road from Hubbard, just a bit farther east.

401. ANGELE I. REYNOLDS: In 1774 Benjamin Bellows gave title to Aaron Hodskins for 41 acres where the Reynolds place is now. Probably Hodskins cleared the land and erected buildings. In 1788 Aaron bought the 30 acres next north of his place, and in 1789 ten acres where Paul Savi lives now. He was a carpenter as well as a farmer, and perhaps also a miller. In 1797 he bought another ten acres near the Savi place, and in 1800 the house and blacksmith shop of John Watkins, standing on his land on the main road to Keene, a short distance east of the Reynolds house. The road on which the blacksmith shop stood was the old county road to Keene, crossing the Kingsbury Road east of the Reynolds' buildings. William Kingsbury remembers that in the days of the Model T, when the present road there got muddy, they churned up charcoal from the old blacksmith shop. That part of the Kingsbury road east of this point was



not built until 1802 after the Third N. H. Turnpike was built farther east.

Willard Hodskins (son of Aaron Jr.) had the Reynolds place; 1860 his daughter Harriet and husband Joseph E. Burt of Brimfield, Ill., sold to George D. Kingsbury; 1910 his grandson Walter W. of Malden, Mass. to Grace R. and Alice L. Canfield of Cambridge, Mass., daughters of Rev. Charles T. and Louisa Hayward Canfield; 1935 Grace R. to present owner from Brooklyn, N. Y. On the slope south of the house the lupines grow luxuriantly.

402. WOODWORTH JAMES: This was the northeast corner of Lot #5 in the 5th Range. Aaron Hodskins bought 1788 from Benjamin Bellows' estate. Aaron's widow Eunice had this. The James' house was perhaps the house John Watkins (who also had a shop) built on Aaron's land, and Aaron bought in 1800. In 1839 Joshua and Judith Hodskins March owned this part of the Hodskins estate. Joshua and Judith may have been living here even before he died in 1841, aged 79. He was a miller and had had a mill in the Hollow at the foot of March Hill on the March Hill Road. Judith was living on the Kingsbury road in 1842, probably in this house. She died 1852 aged 77. Probably Hannah and Rebecca March lived on here after their mother Judith died.

In 1885 Hannah N. March sold the place to Frances A. Mann (David A.); 1898 to Herbert W. Smith; 1923 estate to Walter E. Moody; 1946 estate to Eleanor M. Sawyer; 1947 to Esther M. James of Brookline, Mass.

## PROSPECT HILL

The second meeting house stood at the top of the hill where the Hooper School now stands, and the roads radiated from here in all directions: (1) from the Village to Keene, the very earliest road in town, probably cut by the first proprietors 1738, made a town road 1762, surveyed 1774, Third N. H. Turnpike 1802, then a county road 1822; (2) a road before 1781 from Ramsay Hill to Wentworth road, the old Chappell Hill Road finally discontinued 1914, had been replaced in 1799 by the present Hooper Road southwesterly to Wentworth Road (that road caused as much discussion and vote changing as any road in town); (3) 1788 a new road from the Reservoir Road, discontinued 1869 when there was no longer a meeting house here and a new road had been built farther east in 1856 (North Road).



403. WILLIAM BURROWS: In 1786 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold one acre here to Thaddeus Collins, weaver. Collins erected buildings and sold 1788 to Edmund Brewster, tailor; 1790 to Joel Chaffin, carpenter; 1797 to Elijah Kilburn, carpenter; 1799 to Stephen Mellish, innholder and cabinet maker. On the southeast side of this lot there stood a small red house where Mellish lived up to September 1800. He had built another on the site of present Burrows' house, moved into it and sold the other to Macey Adams, who was living there October 1800. Probably the first house was south of the shop, the new one to the north. Collins may have built the shop and the first house. In 1805 Mellish sold to Alexander Watkins and Asa Sibley; 1807 to Ruggles Watkins, oldest son of Alexander; 1830 to George S. Fisher (Betsy S.) and James B. Fisher (Abigail L.), wheelwrights, of Medway, Mass.; 1831 to William Jennison (Phebe), perhaps for his son Edwin who became minister of the new church on the hill; 1834 to Simeon Ballou; 1836 to Ephraim F. Towns; 1836 to Henry Wetherby of Sherburne, Mass.; 1837 to Lyman Stearns (probably a shoemaker, son of Aaron Stearns); 1848 to John Bunting; 1875 to John Selkirk who pulled down the old house and built a new two story house. This house burned Aug. 19, 1918, occupied by Harry Phillipson. In 1920 Selkirk's daughter Mrs. Lizzie R. Guild of Claremont sold to William T. Burrows, carpenter, who built on site of burned house.

404. MRS. HENRY (JENNIE) BURROWS: In 1801 Stephen Mellish sold to Macey Adams, painter, the small red house on the south side of his lot; 1812 to Ransom Lawrence. His widow, Betsey, married William Ruggles. They sold the place in 1829 to Asa Griffin of Swanzey, took it back 1831; 1832 to Stephen W. and Calvin Marcy; 1837 to Alfred Marcy; then back to Ruggles; 1841 to Moses Fisher who lived up on Maple Grove Road; 1862 his heirs to William J. and Martha Watkins Shipmen from Westminster, Vermont. Their daughter Emma C. was living here in 1886, and sold to her mother's sister Hannah Watkins Towns of Rockingham, Vt. In 1907 Ellen Bishop Ruggles, widow, of Reading, Mass., bought the place; 1911 to Henry and Jennie Burrows.

405. HAZEL CUMMINGS: In 1797 Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to Benjamin Garfield, tanner, somewhat over an acre on the southwest side of the highway and on the northeast side  $69\frac{1}{2}$  rods with buildings and a tanyard thereon, probably on the little brook that flows through the premises. Timothy Garfield was then living in the house; Jan. 13, 1800, to Allen Watkins (son of Nathan); Apr. 26, 1800 to Horace Floyd. Benjamin



Garfield was still living in the house. In September Simon Buel was living here. Oct. 10, 1801, Horace sold to James Fuller.

In 1818 Fuller sold the north  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre to William and Oliver Huntington. There was a building here according to the deed, perhaps the old shop. William Huntington removed to Derry and Oliver sold 1832 to George Watkins 2nd (or 3rd).

The south part of the Floyd land Fuller sold in 1824 to Anson Lawrence. (He was living here as early as 1823.) His son Henry F. married Amy Elnora, daughter of Charles Watkins, and it is possible they inherited this property, she the north and he the south; 1920 Henry F. Lawrence (single) of Waltham, Mass., to John L. Hubbard of Brattleboro, Vt.; 1922 to George E. and Eunice Dame. Mrs. Dame was Hazel Boynton Cummings' grandmother. Mrs. Boynton and her children lived with the Dames in the house across the street.

Probably Hazel Cummings' house was where the Huntingtons lived. In 1858 it was shown as "Mrs. Watkins", and 1865 was occupied by Isaac Graves, 1892 by Henry Lawrence. No records have been found to substantiate conclusions so transfer may have been by will.

406. IRENE A. CHICKERING: Nicanor Townsley had this place from Benjamin Bellows; 1794 to Joel Chaffin, carpenter; 1799 to Joseph Heaton; 1806 to James Campbell. (See *AH* 223-4.) The house in which the Campbells lived stood on the site of the house here in 1880 in which Isaac Graves lived. James Campbell's office of Cheshire County Register of Deeds became the woodshed of the later house. The Campbell heirs sold in 1826 and 1827 to Holland Fay; 1830 to Anson Lawrence; 1895 heirs to George E. Dame; 1922 to A. Burton Brown; 1943 Geraldine P. Brown (widow) to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1943 to Leslie J. and Rose O. Swain; 1945 to Charles Cleveland; 1958 Mrs. Grace McMenimen to Irene A. Chickering.

In 1961 Irene A. Chickering sold land north of her house to Robert L. Galloway Jr., who built a new house.

407. NORMAN N. SCHOFIELD: Norman Schofield bought this land in 1954 from Cleveland and McMenimen and built the house. This was part of Lot #3 in the 5th Range which Benjamin Bellows left to his daughter Abigail. Her son, Seth Hunt of Willsborough, N. Y., sold in 1820 to Stephen Rowe Bradley. Bradley must have sold to Anson Lawrence, since the Schofield land was part of the dower of his widow, Sally, in 1865; 1895 her heirs to George E. Dame of Bellows Falls. It has had the same



sequence of owners as the Chickering place on the other side of the highway.

408. ELEANOR H. BURDICK: For early history see 409. Apollos Gilmore owned the place from 1807 until his death. In 1903 Harriet E. Barnett (daughter of Harriet G. Barnett, daughter of Eunice, third wife of Apollos Gilmore) sold to Frances A. Mann; 1906 to Carl U. Smith; 1927 to Harry N. Matthews of Newton, Mass.; 1931 to Elizabeth F. McVay of Boston (single); 1945 to Harry N. and Anne P. Matthews of Newton, Mass.; 1948 Anne P. Matthews (widow) to present owner.

409. LORENZO PRESSEY CELLARHOLE: In 1788 Benjamin Bellows sold this place and the next north to John French; 1789 to James Knapp, cabinet maker; 1794 to William Hewes, painter, and John Jennison Jr., shop joiner; 1795 to Noah Heaton. In 1807 he sold the north part to Apollos Gilmore. The south part was sold after his death to Dr. George Sparhawk in 1814; 1851 to Lorenzo Pressey; 1872 to Jane Bundy; 1881 her heirs to Andrew J. Roy; 1905 Mary J. Roy (single) to Herbert E. Wells. The house burned Oct. 22, 1912, and land sold 1912 to George L. Hooper.

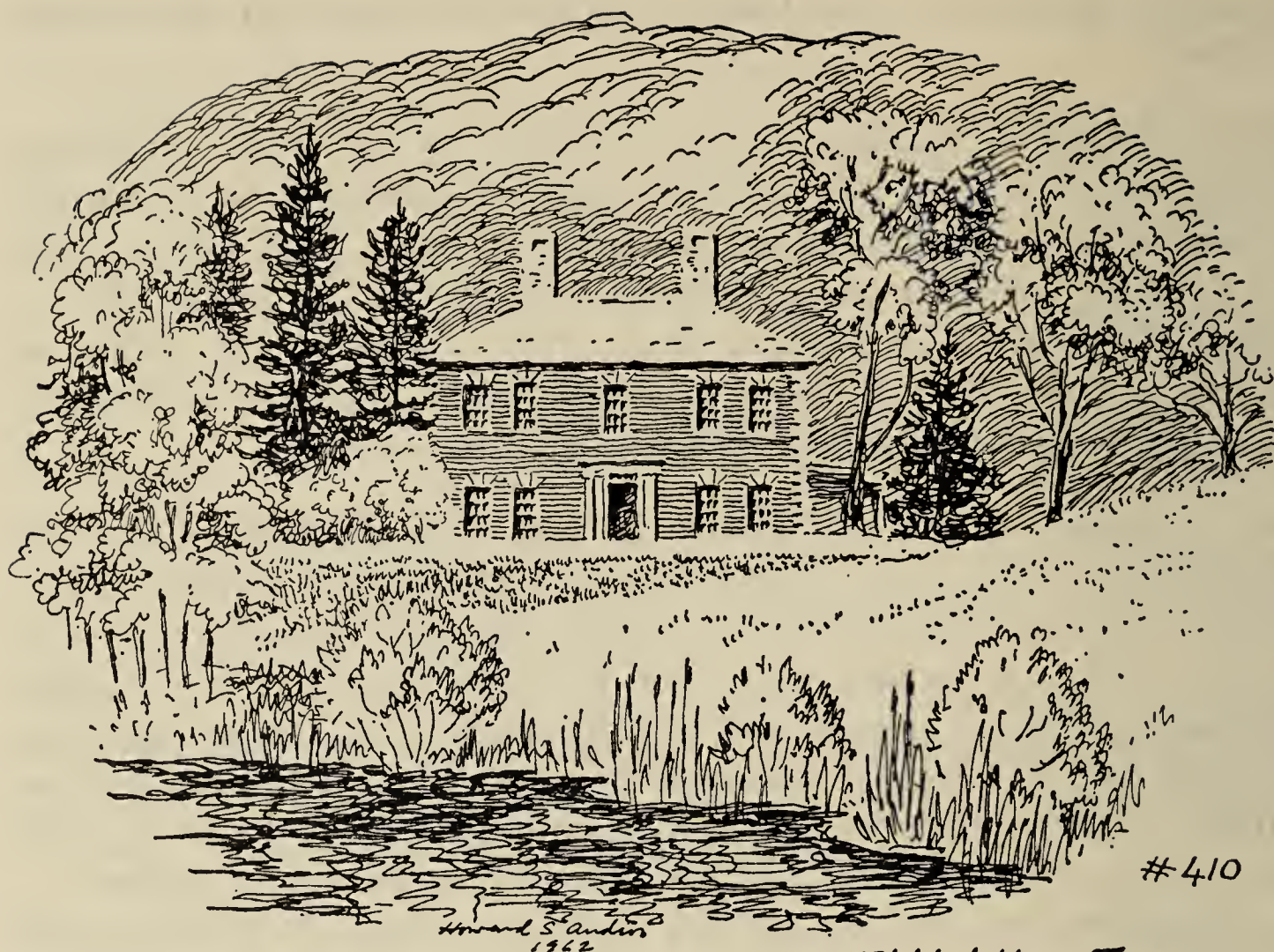
It appears that John Cooper had sold this to Samuel Fuller prior to 1788.

410. HOOPER GOLF CLUB—LOT #4 IN THE 5TH RANGE: Jonathan Bixby resided here before 1779 when Benjamin Bellows Jr. sold to Antipas Harrington. The south part of the next lot north, #3 in the 5th Range, belonged to Daniel Denison. He was in town as early as 1765. No records were found as to when or from whom he bought and when and to whom he sold. The 1781 crossroad (Chappell Hill Road) from John Marcy's to Wentworth Road followed his south line. About 10 rods from his southwest corner the road looped to the north. In 1779 he sold the corner southwest of the road to Widow Bridget Hudson. In 1794 she sold to Alexander Watkins.

Denison was here 1781, but in 1786 John Bellows sold to Antipas Harrington. In 1788 Harrington sold the farm to Alexander Watkins.

The place remained in the Watkins family until 1859 when Henry J. Watkins sold to Benjamin E. Webster of Boston; 1891 to Frederick H. Hooper of New Bedford, Mass. His daughter, Mary Hooper Weymouth (Henry), lived here but her brother George Hooper owned. He left it to the town. Walpole built the Hooper School with Hooper funds and leases most of the farm to Hooper Golf Club.





*Old Watkins Tavern*

The Club House was the tavern of Alexander Watkins who built it and lived here until his death 1824.

411. TOWN OF WALPOLE: This place was in Lot #3 in the 5th Range, opposite the Common and the Pound. In 1802 Alexander Watkins sold one acre with buildings to Levi Child, blacksmith; 1802 to Asa Sibley; 1802 to Matthew Dickey; 1806 to John Pratt, blacksmith; 1809 to Levi Allen; 1810 to John Pratt (Polly); 1817 to Ebenezer Ash, cordwainer. He advertised it thus for sale: "Opposite Meeting House Originally built for blacksmith shop, 2 forges, 1 ox frame, etc., good dwelling house, barn, outhouses, never failing well, 1 acre, fenced". In 1823 Ash sold to Lewis Gilmore; 1826 to Daniel E. Pratt; 1843 (Pratt then of Boston) to Isaac Nourse; 1877 to Mary S. Pressey; 1900 her son Eugene E. of Worcester to Cutler F. Winchester of Ayer, Mass.; 1907 the Winchesters sold to George L. Hooper of Lowell, Mass. He left to the Town of Walpole.

HILL MEETING HOUSE: In 1787 the new meeting house had been built on land of Antipas Harrington where the Hooper School now stands. Three acres were deeded for the Meeting House and the Common "To have and to hold so long as the same shall be



used and improved as part of a Common whereon a meeting house shall stand for public worship for said Walpole or any parish or religious society of said town."

412. ELEANOR MORSE SAWYER: This place was included in the 100 acres Benjamin Bellows sold to Josiah Hubbard 1771. Probably he did not fulfill his contract and Bellows took it back, although as a rule these transactions were not recorded until the terms had been met. In 1781 John Bellows deeded all but about 25 acres to Isaac Bundy who lived down on the Thompson Road; 1790 he deeded this part to his brother Elias Bundy who lived on Lawrence Britton farm; Elias sold 10 acres here in 1789 to Aaron Hodskins.

Tabitha Hodskins, daughter of Aaron, married Elijah Turner. They sold the property 1817 to James Campbell.

Campbell lived down on Prospect Hill, and his heirs sold to Anson Lawrence; 1844 to John S. March.

John S. and wife Abby S. March both died 1890. The estate was sold 1891 to Albert Dickey; 1921 to Duane F. Ellis; 1926 to Byron Hartley O'Brien; 1929 to Mrs. Eleanor Morse Sawyer, now of Charlestown. Her son Paul Savi occupies.

## THOMPSON ROAD

Among the roads surveyed 1781 there was one which began near the foot of Ramsay Hill, passed southwest of Gerald Hill's house, crossed the present road and continued toward Great Brook, then, near the foot of the hill, turned southwest and finally came into the Keene Road some 100 rods south of the present road. This road was discontinued 1821 when the present road was made from Albert Fletcher's to Lawrence Britton's.

## BUNDY

Sometime prior to 1766 James Bundy bought of Benjamin Bellows what was supposed to be 200 acres. The farm included land on the east side of the 5th Range from a point on the Maurice (Graves) Road to a little north of the Thompson Road. Originally the south line was along the northwest boundary of the Atkinson Tract, extending northeasterly to a point about midway of Lot #20 (Fay), in line with the east line of what was later the Asahel Bundy farm. However, when the deed was finally recorded 1770 the farm extended east to the west line of the Parker farm (Gerald Hill home farm), and the Drury farm had been taken out along the Atkinson line.



James Bundy died April 1772 and the farm was divided as follows among four of his sons. According to *AH* he would have then been 87:

*Nathan*: Southwest corner, formerly belonging to James Bundy's son-in-law, Ithiel Hoadley; later known as Aaron Hodskins' Flint farm.

*Elias*: Lawrence Britton home farm.

*Asahel*: Farm now owned by Ruth Thompson.

*Isaac*: Dr. Stephen Johnson place, now Lawrence Stone.

The next lot north, 100 acres, Benjamin Bellows sold to Josiah Hubbard, but it eventually came to the Bundys and was divided among the various places around it.

James, one of the Bundy sons, was a blacksmith in the village and does not seem to have received any part of the farm.

413. LAWRENCE BRITTON HOME FARM: Lt. Elias Bundy lived on the home place. He sold in 1800 to Aaron Allen who died 1804, and in 1812 Levi Allen sold the farm to David Thompson. He lived here until he died 1851 and was followed on the place by his son Lewis Thompson who never married. Lewis sold 1866 to Alpheus Clark; 1878 to Alonzo Jennings; 1884 heirs to Charles A. Jennings, to George A. Chickering of Westmoreland; 1946 his daughter, Florence A. Knight, to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1947 to Evelyn and Parker Albee; 1947 to Lawrence S. and Yvonne D. Britton.

Probably the buildings are where James Bundy first located, and may be more or less the same.

414. FLINT FARM: This was part of James Bundy's original grant, his son-in-law Ithiel Hoadley (Sarah) living here. Bundy left to his son Nathan; 1774 to Hoadley; 1778 to Leonard Brigham of Fitzwilliam; 1795 to Apollos Gilmore of Framingham, Mass.; 1797 to Asa Sibley of Woodstock, Conn. Sibley is said to have been a silversmith and/or blacksmith. In 1806 he sold to Levi Allen, who sold to Josiah Flint, who, in turn, sold to Aaron Hodskins Jr. He sold to his daughter Almira Hodskins (Mrs. Ebenezer E. Stowell). In 1879 Ebenezer sold to Charlotte B. and George W. Murdough who deeded it back; 1883 to Anna E. Fletcher of Westmoreland who agreed to support the Stowells; 1891 Lewis Dickey took a mortgage. (Anna had become Anna E. Hammond.) In 1895 to George A. Chickering and it became part of the Thompson Farm.

Mrs. Weymouth could remember when she was a child attending #5 School and playing in and around the house which was then used only for storage. It stood west of Watkins Hill Road.



In April 1962 John N. and Margaret Latham bought the old building site and erected a house.

415. JOHN P. RILEY: According to the Bellows-Atkinson Derry Hill description, in 1766 James Bundy owned here, but by Heywood's survey in 1781 Manoa Drury owned. By a road record Jonathan Stow was here in 1774, no deed found.

Apparently the Drurys improved the farm extensively, for in 1805 they sold to Ephraim Sherman for \$3120.

In 1817 the Shermans sold this place to Stephen Johnson; 1834 to Stephen Tiffany; 1859 to Eli Graves; 1895 to Harriet N. Davis of Chesterfield; 1904 to George Chickering; 1935 his daughter Florence Knight sold the house and a small piece of land to John P. and Barbara Riley and the rest of the farm to Arthur Chickering Jr. The farm land now goes with the Lawrence Britton farm.

416. RUTH THOMPSON: Asahel Bundy had this farm by his father's will 1772. His son Philip E. Bundy stayed on the home farm. He sold the farm in 1835 to David and David C. Thompson and it is still in the family, belonging to Ruth Almira Thompson. Warren Thompson added considerably while he owned it.

417. LAURENCE S. STONE: Isaac Bundy received this farm in 1772 by his father's will. In 1794 he sold to Noah Heaton and probably moved to Columbia, New Hampshire.

Heaton was a gentleman from Framingham, Mass.; 1797 to Aaron Hodskins Jr.; 1799 to Allen Watkins; 1800 to Moses Mead of Waltham, Mass. There is a great deal of confusion in these deeds. Apparently the trouble came from mortgages and bad money (see *AH* 326-7). In the end Dr. Stephen Johnson owned the place. He left it to his daughter Sally, unmarried, and his wife, Piercy (Persis Webber) (see *AH* 296-8). Sally left her property to her nephew Frederick J. Clark, son of Alpheus Clark. Mrs. Persis Johnson and Frederick Clark were dead before 1851. Alpheus Clark and his wife Philinda lived on the place 1852-65.

All of this property came finally to Stephen Tiffany; 1886 to George Watkins; 1887 heirs to William Knight; 1889 to Elizabeth N. Graves; 1919 to Carl D. White; 1919 to V. A. Killman; 1920 to Walter F. Sutton; 1943 estate to Zeph E. Patch of Charlestown; 1946 to present owners.

418. GERALD HILL'S COBB PLACE: In 1787 John Bellows sold to Alexander Watkins 25 acres in the east corner of the Josiah Hubbard lot; 1788 to Asahel Bundy; 1832 his son Philip to Dr. Stephen Johnson. His son



Stephen S. Johnson was living here when his father died in 1836 and left him life use of it; William H. Johnson, son of Stephen S., inherited it; 1872 to George W. Russell; 1874 to William T. Ramsay; 1884 to Ira W. Ramsay; 1913 to Joseph B. Cobb; 1951 estate of George W. Cobb to Edward K. and Gladys R. Morton; 1952 to Russell G. and Doris E. Eddy; 1955 to Gerald A. and Stella B. Hill. Occupied by their son Donald. House stands north of highway.

419. GERALD HILL HOME FARM: In 1774 Benjamin Bellows sold to Samuel Parker 106 acres on the east side of the road, from the ravine west of Hill's barn to the line of the old road by Albert Fletcher's machinery building, and southeast to the Atkinson tract. Samuel Parker was from Salem, N. H.; 1782 he sold the place to Thomas Parker. Thomas added in 1795 Lot #19 in the Atkinson tract and in 1796 13 acres on the other side of the highway, the south corner of the Marcy lot, the present house standing in the southwest corner. Thomas also bought  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre on the east side of the highway, formerly the northeast corner of the Hubbard lot. Parker's house stood on this  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre and his shop probably about where Hills' house now stands.

In 1799 Thomas Parker sold the 160 acres to Nathan Smith of Framingham, Mass. The house was then on the west side of the road, probably where Hill's is now; 1837 to Sherman Watkins; 1878 heirs to Mary L. Farr of Westminster; 1879 to Hiram Oscar Clark. After his death his brother Daniel G. Clark bought out the other heirs; 1919 to James G. Bigelow of Rockingham, Vt.; 1924 heir Wallace G. Bigelow to Jacob and Teofila Koson; 1935 to Gerald and Stella Hill.

Daniel Clark built the present house 1904.

#### NORTH ROAD, EAST END

420. SPARHAWK HILL FARM—MRS. DON DAYHOFF: This was the southeast corner of the tract which Thomas Sparhawk bought 1777 from Rev. Jonathan Leavitt; sold to his son Thomas 1783; 1837 to George Kilburn of Walpole and Elijah C. Kilburn of Boston; 1839 to Orville Jennison; 1840 to Zephaniah Kidder; to his granddaughter Mary K. Huntington Wier; to her children who sold 1908 to Frank M. Houghton; 1922 his widow Nellie V. to Arthur Gilman; 1929 to Margaret McI. Sherwin and Margaret Sherwin of New York City; 1959 to Guy and Marion Bemis; 1962 to present owner.

421. FRED S. CARPENTER: In 1840 while Orville Jennison owned the farm #420, he sold the lot on the east corner of North Road and Reservoir



Road to Judith Fuller; 1843 to John H. Fuller; 1843 to Stephen Stearns (one of the Stearns women lived here); 1844 to Harvey Stearns.

In 1866 Teresa R. Emery Rogers (a minor) sold to Nahum Wilson; 1869 to Thomas Tahen; 1876 to Lewis Thompson on a judgment; 1878 heirs to Angelina Colburn (Albert); 1890 to Mary H. Ela of Keene, called it "Rambleside"; 1898 to Helen M. Bates, who went from Walpole to California; 1920 to Frank M. Wilder of Somerville, Mass.; 1920 to Emma M. O'Brien of Newton, Mass.; 1930 to Clarence J. and Arlene L. Jeffrey; 1943 to Harold F. and Faith E. Ball; 1953 to Clarence E. and Shirley L. Swain; 1960 to Thomas Gallagher; 1961 to Fred Carpenter.

422. THOMAS TURNER: In 1771 Benjamin Bellows sold to James Litch (Leach) the 100 acres east of the 5th Range, which probably included Lot #5 in the second row of hill lots. It extended from the east line of the 5th Range to the Ramsay Hill Road. In 1775 Leach sold the east 30 acres along the Ramsay Hill Road to John Bellows. Dr. Euger or Agur owned 1783; Gamaliel Deming 1785. There was a house somewhere on the lot, perhaps where the clump of trees stands. This would have been on the old road. In 1783 or 1785 Leach sold an acre in the northwest corner of his land on the north side of the brook and west of North Road to Joseph Thatcher, tanner. This came back to the farm in 1839. He probably had a house.

In 1783 or 1785 Leach sold the farm to John Fuller of Lunenburg, Mass. His son James had it. James Henry Fuller and wife Mary S. resided here as late as 1843. They had a son John H. who lived in Keene.

In 1839 Elijah Kilburn sold to John H. Fuller the Thatcher lot and what seems to have been the north tip of the Anson Lawrence piece, northeast corner of Lot #2 in 5th Range; and at the same time Fuller sold to Kilburn what he owned north of the road ( $\frac{1}{2}$  acre near corner of Meeting House Road). A house then stood on this land, Fuller reserving the right to remove during the winter 1839-40, no dwelling to be erected here for 20 years. In 1844 John H. Fuller sold the farm to Alfred W. Burt (42 acres); 1929 Lillian F. Burt, widow, to Bant H. Morgan; 1946 to present owners.

## MEPAS LOT

East of the 5th Range (east of the Country Club) there was a triangular lot which Benjamin Bellows left to his daughter Abigail. When his will was printed, this was called the Mepas Lot, but we have reason to believe that this was a corruption of Messer. Nathaniel Messer had



owned the lot earlier, and it is quite possible that an error was made in interpreting the double "s" in Messer because of the old way of writing. This lot was bounded by the old Josiah Hubbard lot on the south, the old Marcy farm on the east, the Litch (Leach) farm on the north. It included the Ferguson, Hartman, Selkirk, Houghton, Roy and Sanford places.

423. ALAN B. HARTMAN—CORNER NORTH ROAD AND MAPLE GROVE ROAD: In this place are 2 acres out of the Mepas Lot, the north 30 acres out of the old Leach farm and the west 3 acres out of Abigail Bellows' land in the 5th Range. In 1820 Abigail Bellows' son Seth Hunt of Willsborough, N. Y., sold to Stephen Rowe Bradley; 1831 willed to his grandson Stephen Rowe Bellows (no acreage given, but this included that part of Abigail's land north of Maple Grove Road and east of the 3rd N. H. Turnpike). In 1824 Bradley sold a tiny 56 rod piece on Maple Grove Road, next west of Apollos Gilmore, to John H. Fuller and in 1843 Bellows sold 2 acres next west to Fuller. In 1843-4 Fuller sold this and 30 acres on the north to Frederick Kilburn; 1851 to Alonzo Jennings. He added the other 3 acres in 1867. In 1884 Clarissa Jennings and Charles A. (Emma J.) Jennings sold to Wm. A. Jennings; 1919 to Elro Curtis of South Orange, N. J.; 1924 to Ralph E. Proctor of Keene; 1924 to Harold O. Pierce of Claremont; 1932 to Arthur J. and Clara G. Gilbert of Claremont; 1941 to David Allen and Margaret Wilkins Reed; 1948 to Harvey L. Smith Jr.; 1952 to Ruth M. Sawyer; 1961 to Alan G. Hartman.

424. KENNETH A. FERGUSON: In 1939 the Gilberts sold a piece on the west next to the road to Theodore N. and Gertrude V. Ratte who built house; 1945 to James G. and Ruth K. Garvin of Westminster; 1947 to Albert W. Leavitt; 1950 to Kenneth A. and Anne M. Ferguson.

425. ETHEL O. SELKIRK (MRS. WILLIAM): In 1810 Apollos Gilmore bought 13 acres from the southeast corner of the Sparhawk lot on Ramsay Hill and in 1811 2 acres, adjoining on the south, from Josiah and Abigail Bellows Richardson, being the northeast corner of the Mepas Lot (brick schoolhouse on the corner); 1854 estate to Frederic Watkins who in 1856 bought of Charles and Mary Sparhawk another 17 acres; 1883 to Alonzo Jennings; 1885 heirs to Frank R. Ramsay; 1886 to Marvin R. Booth of Germantown, Calif., who bought another acre in 1909, which included schoolhouse lot, from Fred A. Ramsay; 1913 to Ada E. Booth; 1920 heirs to present owner.

426. REGINALD G. MACK: When Marvin R. Booth sold #425 in 1913, he



reserved the schoolhouse lot and lived here; 1920 heirs to Charles P. Howland; 1933 estate to Charles F. and Jenny T. Ramsay; 1936 to George H. and Lelia B. Barrett; 1947 to Elmer L. and Dorothy M. Hicks; 1948 to Richard C. and Evelyn Swain; 1950 to present owners.

426a. WILLIAM E. HOUGHTON: In 1958 and again in 1960 Ethel O. Selkirk, widow, sold land for a house lot to William E. and Nancianne D. Houghton. They built the house.

427. FRED A. ROY: The south part of the Mepas lot was sold by Abigail Bellows Hunt and her family, in 1816, to Philip Bundy and David Thompson; 1842 the southerly half by David Thompson to Ephraim A. Watkins, who added other pieces; 1877 to John B. Russell; 1886 to Jennette Messer Russell (Mrs. Charles); 1893 to Cyrus M. Clough; 1923 to his son-in-law Fred A. Roy.

On November 19, 1895, the house and barns burned. They were rebuilt.

428. VERA HOUGHTON: The northerly half of the Bundy and Thompson lot was sold 1825 to Alexander Watkins; 1856 his wife Mary to son Hiram; 1870 to Jerome Lebourveau; 1907 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1916 to Algion E. Houghton; 1935 his widow, Jennie S., to Edward A. Houghton, now owned by his widow.

429. ROBERT A. SANFORD: In 1957 Fred A. and Minnie Roy sold a house lot in the south corner of their land on the Keene Road to Robert A. and Mildred G. Sanford who built new house.

## MARCY FARM

By road records we know that Capt. John Marcy was here on what was Lot #6 in the 3rd Range of Hill Lots at least as early as 1767. Before 1763 he owned the land farther north on Ramsay Hill. There are now four houses and one cellarhole on what was the Marcy Farm. Where the Marcy house stood is not known, possibly near the house now the Howland place. When the road from the first meeting house to Alstead was laid out, it came up over the hill from the North Road to the Ramsay Hill Road near these houses, "into the road by Mr. Mercy's".

Capt. Marcy was a man of importance in Walpole, at the Battle of Bunker Hill led a company of men from Charlestown, Walpole, etc. About 1778 he removed to Windsor, Vt., where he and his wife died 1801. (*Bellows Gen.* p. 87-8.)



He sold his holdings in Walpole to Capt. Phineas Hutchins who died a few years after coming here.

Eliphalet Fox, a bricklayer, owned the place next, selling in 1787 to Benjamin and John Bellows. They divided the farm between them, Benjamin taking the north 30 acres and John the south 65 acres. Of this John sold the east part to Jonas Hosmer. Across the south side, south of Maple Grove Road, he sold three lots. The east two went to Thomas Parker in 1796. Of these two the east one is now a part of the Gerald Hill farm and the other is the Mahony place. The lot in the southwest corner of the farm, sold by John Bellows in 1807 to Jehial Paul, is now the Harold Smith place.

In 1806 John Bellows sold one acre five rods on the north side of the road by Hosmer's southwest corner to Elijah Kilburn. This was the Nicanor Townsley place, now only a cellarhole in Gerald Hill's field.

In 1814 Roswell Bellows (son of John) sold the 22 acres northeast of the intersection of the Ramsay Hill Road and the Maple Grove Road to Dr. George Sparhawk. For 100 years it belonged with the Smith place. In 1950 Gerald Hill bought it, and sold George and Shirley A. Morton a house lot in the northwest corner.

430. WENTWORTH HUBBARD: The Mortons built their house soon after buying the lot; 1960 George Morton's widow, Shirley A., to present owners.

431. HOWLAND: The next house north, on land of the Howland farm, was built 1910 or 11 by the Howlands for their farmer, Fred Ramsay.

432. NICANOR TOWNSLEY CELLARHOLE: In 1806 John Bellows sold the land to Elijah Kilburn; 1810 land and buildings to Nicanor Townsley. According to *AH* 370 Nicanor Townsley was a resident of Walpole as early as 1785. "His occupation was that of a 'Jack of all trades'. He had a small shop which stood just east of his house, where he used to employ a portion of his time in repairing various articles of furniture for the townspeople, which he did very neatly, he being a man of uncommon ingenuity. From 1795 to 1817 he was town clerk with the exception of 1807. It was his duty to cry the banns of matrimony before church service, from year to year, and his voice was so peculiar that once heard it was not easily forgotten. He held some town office every year for more than twenty-five years, and was often chosen one of the selectmen, on account of his good ability and sound discretion."

In 1868, after the death of Orrel, daughter of Nicanor, the heirs sold



the place to Isaiah Pratt. He must have lived only a short time, for the next spring (1869) his widow, Vilenda, sold the land and buildings to Clement Dickey.

433. HAROLD E. SMITH: In 1807 John Bellows sold to Jehial Paul, carpenter, 4 acres. In 1799 Paul had bought 10 acres from Joseph Heaton; 1807 to Leonard Harrington; 1811 to John Messenger (road was moved farther south while he owned); 1815 to Ozias Lawrence, known as Lawrence place for years; 1817 to Ruggles Watkins; 1842 heirs to James Hooper Jr.; 1845 to Frederick Watkins (grandson of Ruggles); 1848 to Joseph E. Burt (Harriet M.), removed to Peoria, Ill.; 1857 to Clement S. Dickey; 1928 Albert C. Dickey (inherited) to Helen F. Putnam; 1935 to Savings Bank of Walpole; 1935 to Leon P. and Emily J. Manning; 1941 estate to Edward T. and E. Ethel Burnham; 1945 to Harold E. and Esther W. Smith.

434. JULIA MAHONY: In 1796 John Bellows sold 13 acres to Thomas Parker; 1796 four acres to Moses Huntley; 1798 to Joseph Heaton; 1799 to Elijah Kilburn; 1801 to Levi Hooper; 1802 to Kilburn; 1804 to Allen Watkins; 1806 to Asa Sibley; 1809 to Alvin Fisher; 1815 to Samson Drury; 1821 to Allen Watkins; 1827 to Gardner Watkins of Alstead, to Stephen I. Mellish; 1831 to Samuel Mellish; 1833 to Sherman Watkins; 1835 to Nathan Smith; 1839 to Betsey Smith; 1881 estate to Solomon Ballam; 1915 heirs to Frank W. and Flora M. Garfield of Putney, Vt.; 1920 to Herman L. Pitman; 1921 to Ellen Harriet and Edward Cunningham; 1921 to George B. and Belle W. Bills; 1923 to Fred A. and Mary Ramsay; 1924 to Michael Murphy of Jamaica Plain, Mass.; 1944 heirs to present owner.

435. ALBERT H. FLETCHER: When Benjamin Bellows sold the Messer lot next north in 1765, this land belonged to George Stow (Lot #6 in the 4th Range of Hill Lots). No record of this Stow or of Jonathan Stow who was farther down Great Brook has been found in the deeds. They may have settled here and removed elsewhere before a record was made. In 1773 Bellows sold to his step-son Jonathan Jennison 53 acres extending east from the Marcy lot presumably to the Atkinson tract on Derry Hill.

In 1783 Jonas Hosmer came to Walpole from Acton, Mass., and worked as a mason for Eliphalet Fox and in 1785 Hosmer bought Jonathan Jennison's farm. Jennison then moved to his land on the Keene road (now Petrie). In 1834 Jonas Hosmer sold the farm to his son Edwin, having added land to make a total of 116 acres in the farm. In 1882



Edwin Hosmer sold to his daughter Helen M. Seabury; 1894 to Cyrus Clough of Goshen; 1897 to Oscar Landon; 1899 to William H. Fletcher; 1928 to his son Albert H., who also acquired Clover Hill on the north side of his farm, and the Oliver Hall farm, of which he sold the twelve acres near the buildings. In addition to his farming he carries on a farm machinery business, Pinnacleview Farm Equipment Inc. Clough added the ell to the house in 1895.

436. TOWN OF WALPOLE: In 1919 Daniel G. Clark sold one acre out of what is now the Gerald Hill Farm to John W. Miller; 1952 his heirs to Gerald M. and Harriette E. Miller; 1960 to Town of Walpole.

437. JOHN P. BURROWS: In 1961 Albert Fletcher sold a house lot to John P. and Linda G. Burrows who built the house.

438. WALTER W. CAMPBELL: In 1958 Albert Fletcher sold a house lot to Walter W. and Patsy R. Campbell who built a house.

439. JOHN P. BURROWS: In 1958 Albert Fletcher sold a house lot to John P. Burrows who built a house.

440. ALBERT FLETCHER: An old house that is rented to others.

441. MALCOLM WILLIAMS: "Timothy Messer, one of the earliest settlers of this town, came to Walpole sometime before 1760, and took up land (Howland farm on Ramsay Hill) of Col. Benjamin Bellows. "Here he toiled till a clearing was effected sufficiently large to raise 300 bushels of wheat in one year when he was obliged to vacate the land to John Jennison, one of Col. Bellows' step-sons. During his stay on the place he and his family underwent many privations. At one time he left his family almost destitute of food and went to Northfield, Mass., and worked for a man long enough to pay for a bushel of corn, which he got ground, and brought to Walpole, on his back, a distance of forty miles, guided by marked trees." *AH*

In 1765 Timothy Messer bought from Benjamin Bellows 100 acres constituting Lot #5 in the 4th Range of Hill Lots, according to the Bellows Plan. This plan shows a road crossing the lot. According to the deed Bellows gave John Marcy in 1775 for Lot #6 in the Third Range, there was a road up the east side of Marcy's land to Timothy Messer's north from Fletcher's buildings now.

In 1780 Messer sold the north half of this farm, on which he was then living, to his son Thomas who, in turn, sold back to his father in 1783



the piece on the east side of Maple Grove Road. Apparently Thomas had built a house and continued to live here until he sold to Jonathan Royce in 1797 for £220.

In 1784 Timothy sold his farm to Jonathan Royce.

Thus it may be seen that by 1797 Royce had acquired all of the original Messer farm. In 1811 he sold to his second son, Abner, the south part of the farm (70 acres) and another 23 acres near the southeast corner of the farm. Perhaps he lived then in the Thomas Messer house. In 1817 he sold the north part of the original farm to Dr. Sparhawk and probably removed to the Valley. Abner in turn sold what he had bought from his father to Samson Drury in 1814 and removed to New York State.

Samson Drury also owned the Capt. John Emery farm on Derry Hill and it is not evident at which place he lived. According to Aldrich, his father, Manoah, in the latter part of his life "lived in a house that once stood a few rods west" of Malcolm Williams'. According to a deed of Jonas Hosmer to Edwin Hosmer in 1834, Manoah Drury was on the north.

Through foreclosure of a mortgage Drury lost both farms in 1829. Anan Evans sold to Sterry Clark, trader, of Providence, R. I., in 1830; 1841 to Reuben Parsons of New York City; 1850 to Oliver Hall (not including the Emery farm); 1894 Oliver E. Hall bought the shares of his father's other heirs; 1935 he sold most of the estate to Albert Fletcher. Fletcher kept most of the farm land but in 1937 sold the buildings and 12 acres of land—narrow strip on east side of road, rest on west side of Maple Grove Road—to Charles Frederick and Grace H. Chaplin of Manhasset, L. I.; 1946 to Everett P. and Mae V. Jewett; 1954 to Frederick W. Schaefer; 1955 to Malcolm D. Williams.

442. CUMMINS CATHERWOOD—MAPLE GROVE FARM: In 1775 Nathan Brooks, Harvard, Mass., bought of Benjamin Bellows for £100, 100 acres, probably Lot #4 in the East Range of Hill Lots. According to the deed there was "allowance for 2-rod road . . . as is marked out on same." Brooks probably moved here and made his home, since in 1776 he sold to Philip Eastman, cordwainer, a three acre piece East 33° south 65 rods "from the northwesterly corner of my land or lott on which I dwell and stands the easterly side of the now travelled road. . . ."

Brooks was probably getting along in years, for in 1779 he sold to his son Solomon his farm "with a reserve of my maintenance out of said farm." However, in 1788 the General Assembly of New Hampshire empowered John Bellows, Amasa Allen and Thomas Bellows "to sell certain lands conveyed by Nathan Brooks to Solomon Brooks his son and to





apply the monies to support and maintain said Nathan Brooks for £132 6 shillings 6 pence to George Sparhawk; 53¼ acres 35 rods. . . ." This included the land northwest of the highway and a small triangular piece on the south side. This transfer did not include what came to be known as the Clark and Hixon lands which were a part of the original Brooks farm.

In 1777 Benjamin Bellows' executors had sold for £35 to Elizabeth Eastman (widow of Philip) 70 acres, probably Lot #5 in the East Range of Hill Lots, next southwesterly of Nathan Brooks' lot. Mrs. Eastman's heirs sold the place for £210 to Dr. Sparhawk in 1785.

Dr. George Sparhawk (AH 355-6) had come to Walpole about 1780. After his marriage in 1802 he removed from the village to the farm he had bought and remained there until he died 1847, aged 90 years. He added to his land holdings until his landed estate was one of the largest in town.

The doctor owned various tracts on Derry Hill, and in terms of the Bellows map all or parts of Lots #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6 in the East Range of Hill Lots and Lot #3 in the next range west.

Dr. Sparhawk had no children, but he adopted a son of his cousin Hull, John Black Sparhawk.



According to *AH*, John Black Sparhawk lived with the doctor until he died, and his heirs inherited the doctor's property. In 1835 John B. Sparhawk had bought Ezra Hixon's place adjoining the doctor's property. He died 1846, the doctor 1847, and Adeline, his widow, and family inherited the property. She sold the Hixon place to the boys, George C. and John in 1852. On January 14, 1853 they sold it to Orin Bunker.

Adeline died 1870, and in 1871 George C. sold all his holdings in town to George B. Williams of Waltham, Mass.

When Williams bought, the farm was in a rundown condition. Aldrich wrote in part: "He commenced making improvements. . . . The appointments on his premises are of a novel, convenient and permanent nature, compared with those generally seen on country farms. . . . He has two barns, one 81 ft. x 39 ft., the other 103 ft. x 64 ft., 43 ft. in height. . . . He annually cuts . . . about 100 tons of hay, which with about 12 acres of corn fodder and other crops are consumed by 12 horses (he had as many as 40 at one time) and 30 head of Jersey cows. The milk is daily made into butter, 150 lb. per week, sold for 50¢ per pound. . . . The buttermilk is fed to an average of 115 swine (250 Yorkshires in 1891), from which he slaughters 6-10 per week. The lean portion is converted into superior sausage, 240 lb. per week . . . a ready market at 15¢ per pound in the cool part of the year. He has his own ice pond and ice house, slaughterhouse, smoke house, sugar house (1000 tree maple orchard), 300 gals. syrup each spring. It requires the constant labor of six men." . . . Daniel Smith was his foreman for 27 years. The produce from the farm was sold at the Revere House, Parker House and Young's Hotel in Boston. In 1902 Williams sold the farm to Frank D. Warner; 1902 to Judson Strong of Springfield, Mass. (wife Mary F.); 1904 to Fred A. Lebourveau; 1907 to Charles W. Bosworth; 1926 to Arthur H. Chickering. He broke up the place, sold the mansion with 25 acres to Michael W. Murray and Mary Moore who tried to have a summer tutoring school, called Walpole Camps; 1934 Bank foreclosed; 1935 all to Ernest L. and Dana R. Mitchell; 1944 to present owner.

443. EZRA HIXON PLACE: From the 100 acre lot that he bought of Benjamin Bellows in 1775 Nathan Brooks sold the part on the east side of Maple Grove Road to Amos Bucknam in 1779, probably Buckman built house; 1782 to Martin Ashley; 1785 to Martin Ashley Jr.

In 1788 Nathan Davison sold to Thomas Messer; 1800 to Moses Fisher; in 1807 Moses Fisher sold the east 22 acres for \$440 to Ezra Hixon of Alstead; 1835 to John B. Sparhawk, Hixon removing to Brookfield, Vt.



In 1853 the Sparhawks sold to Orin Bunker of Keene; 1877 to Alonzo Jennings; 1877 to Emma A. Johnson of Westmoreland; to Carlos C. Johnson; to Charles E. Hages (Hager) of New Salem, Mass.; 1878 to George S. Long; 1884 to George B. Williams and it thus became a part of what is now the Catherwood Farm.

This place is down the hill, off the road. There were buildings here at least until 1944, all gone now.

444. **MOSES FISHER CELLARHOLE:** In 1780 Jonathan Eastman gave to his daughter Comfort Emerson the 47 acres across the east end of his lot, on the Maple Grove Road. Dr. Moses Emerson came to Walpole between 1775 and 1780. "He married Comfort Eastman and had one son, Jonathan, when he suddenly disappeared from town, and nothing more is known of him." Comfort married second Ebenezer Eaton who lived on Watkins Hill.

In 1793 Comfort Emerson Eaton sold the place to Eliphalet Eaton, her step-son; 1797 to Thomas Messer who in 1788 had bought what was later the Hixon place next south. In 1800 Messer sold to Moses Fisher. "He was an industrious, peaceable citizen of the town and was for several years deacon of Rev. Pliny Dickinson's church. At one time he had a mill on the brook that ran past his house, where cotton yarn was manufactured, and his son David peddled it about the country. The mill was washed away by a freshet in 1826." In 1807 Fisher sold the west part (22 acres) to Ezra Hixon, probably his brother-in-law. Moses' son, Moses, continued at his father's place, at least as late as 1884. George H. Wightman owned 1906. The house burned. It must have been an attractive home, surrounded by the old maple trees, a lovely spot in a dip between the hills.

445. **WALLACE HOGE:** Isaac Fisher, son of Moses, had a place on what was his father's farm on the west side of the road, somewhat north of his father's buildings, an attractive old-fashioned low house which his father sold to him in 1818; 1871 other heirs to Andrew J. Fisher; 1874 Keene Five Cents Savings Bank foreclosed; 1876 to Alonzo Jennings (farm then occupied by Andrew J. Fisher); 1878 to Chauncey E. Knowlton; 1905 Edward M. Holden foreclosed; 1907 to John W. Prentiss; 1910 to Albert L. Fisher; 1927 to Alphonse Chabot, Fisher having moved to Keene; 1927 to Arthur H. Chickering Jr.; 1933 to Elizabeth MacNutt and James M. Rattray, the latter selling to Elizabeth MacNutt; 1936 to Wallace W. and Louise Aldrich Hoge.



PIERRE W. HOGE: The early records on the land in this section of Eaton Hill on Maple Grove Road are obscure. This may be where Timothy Eaton lived but around 1856 it was in the hands of William P. Mason and inherited from him by Fanny P. Mason; 1919 to Fred O. Smalley; 1944 Nora E. L. Smalley to William Pearson; 1945 to John W. Prentiss; 1946 to Pierre W. Hoge who has put up buildings here. He also purchased from Arthur Chickering Jr. the remainder of the Isaac Fisher Farm, which Chickering reserved when he sold to Elizabeth MacNutt, and the Feldspar Mine Lot which was originally part of the George B. Williams Farm, now Catherwood.

446. CHARLES P. HOWLAND FARM: According to Aldrich, Benjamin Bellows gave 50 acres of this farm to his step-son, Capt. John Jennison. However, the records show that in 1765 Bellows sold 100 acres being Lot #5 in the 3rd Range to John Jennison for £60. Other records show him to have been here as early as 1761.

This was long known as Jennison Hill, later became Ramsay Hill for William Ramsay.

Capt. John Jennison lived on the farm and in 1803 sold one half of farm and buildings to his son William. William was a sheep farmer here most of his life. In 1836 he sold the farm to George Kilburn, son of his sister Rebecca. George had financial difficulties and removed to Fall River, Mass., about 1840, and his brother Elijah apparently took over the farm. In 1850 Elijah also went to Fall River, selling the farm to William T. Ramsay; 1909 heirs to Charles P. Howland, 111 acres. The Kilburns also owned a large piece of land on the west reaching to the next road.

The original house stood on the site of the present one, burned Nov. 5, 1909. The Howlands built the present house.

To the original farm William Jennison added the northwest corner of the Marcy farm, having purchased it from Leonard Stone prior to 1836.

447. DR. RICHARD ALBERT SANCTUARY: David Carlisle of Lunenburg, Mass., bought from Shearman Boardman in 1778 the farm next north of John Jennison's (see Peavy). Carlisle was somewhat advanced in years when he came here. "He brought with him an under bed filled with charlock, a pernicious weed, which he emptied onto his land. Some of the seeds of the weed were in the bed, and took root, and have since spread over considerable territory in town, giving the farmers much trouble when it mingled with their crops." (AH)

One son Capt. David had the place after his father. In 1794 David sold to his son Daniel for £190 "1/2 of farm on which I now live and 1/2 of



buildings except kitchen in house in which I dwell and certain room called the buttery." After David's death Daniel bought out the other heirs. He died of spotted fever in 1813, and his widow inherited.

About 1828 sold to Albert Locke; 1833 to Luke Thurston 88 acres; 1862 heirs to Barsilla Richardson of Keene; 1862 sixty acres west of road to Edwin Guild. The parcel east of the road was sold to William Guild.

Edwin Guild's heirs sold 1907 to Norman Guild, reserving two east rooms on second floor of the house for life use of the widow, Sophia; 1932 to Clarence Bennett; 1932 to Chadwick Mousley; 1937 to Arthur Chickering Jr.; 1938 to Elizabeth C. and Oscar E. Johnson; 1946 to David Allen and Margaret Wilkins Reed; 1961 to present owners.

448. LEOPOLD PEAVY JR.: In 1761 Benjamin Bellows sold for "£27 to John Pomaly (Jonathan Parmelee): Lot of land and is land said Pomaly now lives on 126 acres 132 rods. . . ." This was the lot next south of the Eastman tract and included the main part of the present farm east of the highway and the Sanctuary farm on the west side, the original lot #4 in the 3rd Range of the Hill Lots.

In 1769-70 John Pomaly sold to Alexander Pomaly his holdings west of the highway including buildings (57 acres) and 10 acres on the north side and 12 acres on the south side of the land east of the road; 1771 to Shearman Boardman, 79 acres.

In 1778 Boardman sold to David Carlisle the piece along the south line (now 20 acres) east of the highway along with the land west of the highway. The 20 acres continued to be a part of the Sanctuary farm until some time after it came into the hands of Barsilla Richardson of Keene. He sold to William Guild and it thus became once more a part of what is now this farm.

The nucleus of 39 acres, where the buildings stand, Alexander Parmelee sold in 1786 to Calvin Cone; 1786 to Abner Graves, blacksmith, of Litchfield, Conn. Ezekiel Graves owned 1799 and in 1801 sold the 40 acres to James Knapp for \$700.

In 1802 Knapp sold to Moses Fisher of Alstead for \$875; 1805 to Timothy Ware, gentleman, of Wrentham, Mass., for \$1075; 1816 to Abel Bellows for \$750; 1821 to William Guild, whose first wife was a sister of Capt. Timothy Ware; continued in the Guild family for nearly 100 years; 1852 William's son Increase Sumner Guild moved here from Bethel, Vt., William having moved to the village. In 1862 Increase leased the farm to his son William Wolcott Guild who was then living in



Fitzwilliam, N. H., but who came to live on this farm at that time and continued to live here until he went to live with his daughter Flora Guild Bowman about 1898.

Elwin Guild's heirs sold the place, 170 acres, in 1918 to Francis J. Snow; 1919 to Everett and Elizabeth McNutt; 1933 to James F. and Esther D. Hamil; 1945 to Alfred O. Hoyt of New York City; 1960 to present owners.

449. EASTMAN CELLARHOLE: Prior to 1763 John Marcy bought from Benjamin Bellows the lot #3 in the 3rd and 4th Ranges, including the present Francis farm and east to the Atkinson Tract on Derry Hill; 1763 to Jonathan Eastman of Alstead the land east of the Ramsay Hill Road. Eastman in 1769 added 16 acres from Bellows, and in 1776 a strip 16½ rods wide along his south line (10 acres) from Shearman Boardman.

Jonathan Eastman gave and/or sold parts of his farm as follows: 1780 to daughter Comfort Eastman, the east end on Maple Grove Road (Fisher place #444); 1787 to daughter Bethella Thomas the lot next west, she selling to Sparhawk in 1788; 1777 along Ramsay Hill Road 76 acres to son James, reserving "to myself and wife the improvements of whole of said land and buildings during our natural life." In 1780 he sold to James 27 acres to the east, reserving the improvements. In 1780 James sold a three acre piece in the southwest corner of the farm to Moses Emerson. It came back to the original tract when Roger Fenton sold to Sparhawk in 1850.

In 1788 James Eastman sold his farm to Antipas Harrington; Leonard Harrington in 1807 to Sparhawk; 1866 to William Guild.

The Eastman cellarhole is in the south edge of the field across the road from the Francis place.

450. CELLARHOLE NORTH OF #448: In 1780 James Eastman sold to Moses Emerson, husbandman, three acres at the southwest corner of his farm, on the east side of Ramsay Hill Road, for £6; 1784 to Thomas Goodenow, gentleman, for £55, the price indicating that some buildings had been erected, probably a house; to Aaron Emes of Keene; 1786 to James Eastman; 1789 James Eastman, then of Chesterfield, N. H., to Mehitable Kilburn, spinster, including a dwelling house; 1791 to Ebenezer Hooper, blacksmith; 1794 to Ezekiel Graves, also a blacksmith, and a member of the family owning the Peavy place at that time. The price had been dropping, Graves paying only £35 4 sh. 3 pence. Four months later he sold to Asa Gage Jr., joiner, for £60; 1795 to Sally Howland. She must



have had a husband, or some other male relative, for in 1807 Mr. Howland's barn stood on the northwest corner of the lot, close to the road; 1842, Sarah Howland of Woodstock, Vt., to John Howland, also of Woodstock, for \$500; 1846 to Roger Fenton for \$400; 1850 to George C. Sparhawk for \$350, with no mention of buildings (on 1858 map). It thus was again joined to the original Eastman farm which in 1866 became a part of what is now the Peavy farm.

When the house, supposed to have been built 1790, was taken down in 1881, a brick was found dated 1700.

451. SUZANNE M. FRANCIS: This farm was Lot #4 in the 2nd Range of Hill Lots on the Bellows plan. John Marcy had it from Benjamin Bellows; 1768 to John Martin of Cornish; 1768 to John Pomaly, 50 acres for £20; 1769 to Sherman Boardman of Wethersfield, Conn. for £50; 1774 the north 40 acres to Roger Wolcott, joiner, of Sheffield, Massachusetts Bay.

Roger Wolcott died here leaving a widow Esther. Esther first leased the farm to her son-in-law John Eames, Jr. in 1838, but in 1851 she sold to her son-in-law Harvey Foster, he agreeing to take care of her for the rest of her life.

May 21, 1887, the farm was sold at auction, for the estate of Foster, to Joseph Kidder; to Edward H. and Benjamin Kidder; 1907 Edward H. Kidder unmarried and Martha J. Kidder, widow, to May L. Haynes; 1910 to John W. Prentiss and Harry M. Wilder of Keene, who probably cut the timber; to Fred W. Joslin of Fitchburg. In 1940 Geraldine Hiller and Deborah Cook by virtue of a deed from Blanch B. Joslyn sold to Dwight W. and Florence B. Harris; 1961 Florence B. Harris, widow, to present owner.

There was a small hut standing on the place when Wolcott bought. Being a carpenter by trade, he soon built respectable buildings for a home and cleared and cultivated the land. The original cellarhole is closer to the highway, northeast of the present house built by the Harrises.

452. CHRISTOPHER WEBBER CELLARHOLE: In 1768 Constantine Gilman, who had previously been on the Stearns farm, bought from Benjamin Bellows for £50 100 acres, lot #2 in the 3rd Range of Hill Lots.

In 1767 he sold to Christopher Webber for £3 the five acres in the southeast corner of this lot. The price that Webber paid would indicate that there were at the time no buildings on this site and Webber must have proceeded to build. He was a cordwainer (shoemaker) and five acres



would be ample for his needs in that occupation. However, the next year he bought of Benjamin Bellows for £33 62 acres on the west side of the road.

In 1774 Gilman sold the north 40 acres to Col. Christopher Webber for £48. In 1782 Webber bought half of Lot #1 in the 4th Range of Hill Lots; and in 1784 the north half of #1 in the 2nd and 3rd Ranges and 50 acres next northeast of #1 in the 4th Range, giving him a total of about 250 acres.

Col. Webber seems to have been one of the leading men of the town. He represented the town at Exeter in 1776-7, in the most trying times of its history, and was captain of a company in General Bellows regiment when he went to Saratoga. He held some office of trust and honor in town yearly for more than twenty years. He died 1803, aged 63 years.

Before he died Col. Webber made over his real estate to his son-in-law Dr. Stephen Johnson. In 1808 Johnson sold the land west of the highway and the buildings on the east side to William Guild who later settled on the Peavy farm. Guild retained the land west of the road.

Now back to Gilman. He must have continued to live on the part of the farm that he had not sold to Webber, for in 1799 when he sold to Gamaliel Fenton he referred to it as "My home farm". Fenton paid \$2000 and later the same year sold to Edmund Brewster for \$700; 1812 Brewster, then of Westmoreland, to Ebenezer Pierce for \$1600; 1815 Pierce, then of Wardsboro, Vt., to Benjamin Davis for \$1300. Davis acquired several other parcels through the years, including the Webber 5 acres with buildings. In 1837 James Davis of Reading, Mass., conveyed the property to Alonzo Jennings; and his brother George had the farm for many years.

John Prentiss wrote of this farm and Mr. Jennings—"It is interesting how productive these old farms were, and that the owners were able to raise large families. George Jennings was a natural trader, and trading, particularly in horses, was a major part of his business. At one time he had a very fine mare. A wealthy trader came to see this horse; Jennings offered to sell for \$250, a good price. The customer offered \$200. Jennings came down to \$225 but the customer left. Something in Mr. Jennings' appearance set the fellow thinking, and the following Sunday he came back with another man. They stalled around, and after awhile produced a quart of whiskey and offered George a drink. He was willing, and in a short time they suggested they have another, which they did. After awhile the bottle was empty and the visitors, not unmindful of



evident effect of liquor on George, said they must go along, and asked what the lowest price was that would buy the mare. "\$300," was the reply. Somewhat taken aback, the men said "But you offered her to me for \$225." "By God, I know it, but the price has gone up."

Finally in 1884 the farm was sold to settle Alonzo's estate and it came to Alfred T. Batchelder of Keene; 1897 land and buildings to Benjamin F. Kidder for \$1000. After the last Kidder died, the farm was sold in 1937 to Joseph Cobb; 1941 to Dwight and Florence Harris.

The Webber house which was large and wood-colored, rotted down.

On either side of the highway on the Webber place was a Goose Pond. They drained the east pond and dug clay from the bottom for pottery. In an indenture between Col. Webber and Dr. Johnson in 1800 the former reserved as his half of the property "the two north rooms, half the buttery, the privilege of the shed and the front entry, and *buildings near the potter's business* and privilege of the kitchen to wash and bake."

Redware was made from the bluish gray clay here, the firing changing the color to a light orange red.

453. LESTER W. MANNING: The early history of this place is rather vague. It was early known as the Rose or Ross lot, but no deeds in either name have been found. In 1781 John Still seems to have owned the land, according to road records, Benjamin Bellows deeding to him 1786 "to fulfill contract". Still was in Surry as early as 1769 and was in the Revolution from Walpole. In 1772 he married Phebe, daughter of Duran Wade.

In 1787 Still sold the west 20 acres to his father-in-law for £20 and in 1788 the east 30 acres to Benjamin and Thomas Redington, merchants in Walpole, for £100. According to the *History of Surry* Duran Wade removed from Surry to Walpole about 1770 where he remained until about 1789. He may have sold the west 20 acres to Gamaliel Fenton, for in 1799 he in turn deeded it to Ezekiel Graves for \$300. A deed also indicates Eldridge owned at least the east end in 1794.

Isaac Jennings, born Holliston, Mass. (wife, Thankful Moore), came to Walpole about 1808 and settled on this place, where he remained until his death in 1851.

Joseph Kidder, who bought the farm from Alonzo Jennings, built the house now on the place. According to Prentiss: "This was one of the good farms of the town and no farm was better carried on, or kept more neat and tidy. He kept a flock of Merino sheep. His cattle were Devons, and his team a pair of Morgans of his own raising, and a better team I never saw. He had one of the first mowing machines owned in town, and with a lively team did an excellent job of mowing."



In 1926 Charles P. Howland bought the place of Edward H. and Martha J. Kidder, 94 acres; 1926 to Harriet Hobbs the house and lot. From 1938 to 1941 Arlene Brown Chappell, Mona Brown Cramer and Martha Brown Militzer with their husbands brought together again the house and lot, 20 acres west of the highway and 12 acres on the east; 1951 to George and Marion Douglas; 1956 to E. Sally Regis; 1961 to present owners.

In recent years it has been maintained for the most part as a seasonal home. From the buildings the land falls away gently to the west, affording a view across the fields and woods to the Vermont hills.

## RESERVOIR ROAD

In 1766 the town voted to accept the road from the corner by Asa Baldwin's to the north side of Gilman's lot. . . . This would have been the Reservoir Road from North Road north to the north side of the old Stearns Farm (no survey recorded). One of the 1781 roads extended from the first meeting house northeast along the Hubbard Road, then across to the Stearns Farm, by the Starkweather Farm into the 1774 road from Ramsay Hill.

The town water supply lies east of Reservoir Road, and much of the land has been acquired for its protection.

454. SABIN ROCK FARM—WILLIAMS AND FORBES: In 1838 the Hubbard Sparhawk lot (except for 8 acres on the north side) belonged to Leonard Bisco. The part next to the road he had bought from Heman Gates and Lincoln Brooks, two separate parcels, indicating that it had not previously been a farm unit. In 1840 Bisco sold this east part of the lot to Phinehas Stuart and Reuben S. Brown; 1840 to Oliver Martin; 1852 to George Sabin who remained here the rest of his life. He is said to have built the house. The farm is still known by his name. Northwest of the house, beside a duck pond, stands the huge "Rock". On top is a summer house commanding a wide view across the valley to the Vermont hills.

The Sabin heirs, Frances M. and Emma J. Sabin, sold in 1903 to Edward W. Morse of Brookline, Mass.; 1916 to Mary Steel Curtis of South Orange, N. J.; 1925 to Ralph E. Proctor of Keene; 1925 to Elizabeth C. Johnson; 1936 to Charles W. and Maie E. French of New York City; 1947 to Margaret D. Williams and Bernhard D. Forbes. Mr. Forbes is brother of Margaret D. Williams, who has built a house on the east side of the road. There is also a farmer's house. Sabin had previously had the Sargent farms next north.



455. DONALD E. HUBBARD: This place includes most of two original tracts: the 70 acre tract next south of the Stearns farm, sold in 1773 by Benjamin Bellows to Jonathan Hartwell; and the 100 acres willed to Josiah Bellows by his father. These lots were probably #3 and #4 in the 2nd Range of Hill Lots, on the Bellows-Atkinson Map.

This was long known as the Porter Farm. There is no record that the Porters ever owned the farm, but they must have lived here while it belonged to Josiah Bellows.

Vine Porter came from Morristown, Vt., to Walpole in 1834 and set up practice as a Thomsonian physician, living with his family on this farm.

George Sabin lived on this farm, probably also while Josiah Bellows owned, and is said to have accumulated enough money to buy the next farm to the south in 1852.

In 1852 the Bellows heirs sold to the Kilburns, Frederick owning until 1868. He had lived in Littleton for some years, but returned to Walpole. He was a carpenter and farmer, and was engaged in setting "turbine" water wheels in various mills and factories about the country.

Kilburn sold to David Jennison; 1871 to Stephen Corey; 1876 to Albert N. Howe; 1879 to Oliver N. Sargent. Prentiss says: "This was also a productive farm. Both this and the Gates Farm had magnificent apple orchards, several hundred barrels a year each and abundance of small fruit."

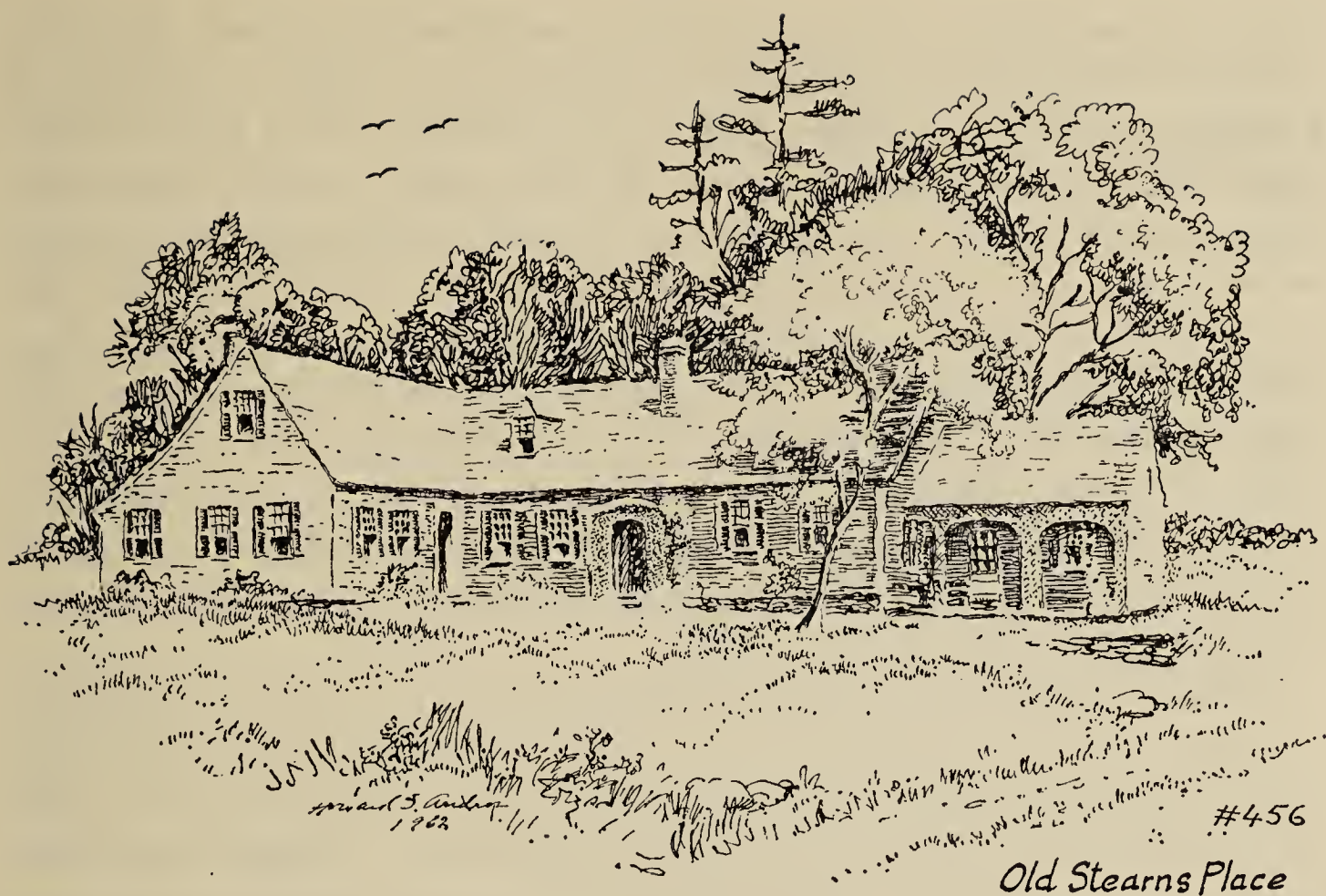
The Sargents sold in 1885 to Oliver Martin; to William T. Ramsay; 1907 to Ira Hubbard.

The barns on the place originally stood east of the highway but were moved to the west side, where the old foundations now remain, two barns, end to end, 40 x 30 ft. They were connected to the house. The story and a half seven room house was built prior to 1800. It stood where Donald Hubbard's red barn now stands.

Donald Hubbard began building his house in 1940, adding to it from time to time until 1954. It stands north of the old buildings, facing the west.

456. STEARNS CELLARHOLE: Sometime previous to 1774 Benjamin Bellows, in total disregard of his early lot plan, laid out in the northwest corner of the hill range of lots a lot with north and south boundaries running east and west instead of at a 35° angle as the other lots were laid in these ranges. This lot was approximately 100 acres and is still clearly defined on the aerial map, although it appears to have been broken up among various owners at times.





In 1774 Bellows sold to his wife's nephew, Moses Stearns, of Westminster, Mass., 100 acres in line with the Webber lot on the west side of the Ramsay Hill Road, the north line being roughly the south bound of the lot mentioned in the paragraph above. This gave a lot rectangular on the east end, but tapering on the west to a point on its south line. At that time it appears that John Bellows owned the lot to the north and a road followed approximately on the line between the lots. When the road was recorded in 1781 it followed a more southerly course, coming into the Reservoir Road at the Stearns buildings.

Constantine Gilman is said to have occupied this land first, having taken it up in 1759, being one of the first settlers in town. He built a house east of the present road where the Stearns orchard later stood, near the brook, and brought his family to Walpole in 1760 from Newmarket, and lived here four years, when his wife died and he returned to Newmarket. On his way thither he stopped overnight at an inn in Peterborough, and there left his daughter Molly, a child then four years old. She remained there till she was eighteen, when she returned to Walpole, her father having bought a farm to the east on the Ramsay Hill Road.

Moses and Ruth Stearns had nine children, five of them born before



they came to Walpole. Of these Ephraim was the oldest. Soon after the Battle of Bennington he joined the American army. While stationed at Fort Edward he had a narrow escape. In a skirmish with a party of Hessians a bullet discharged from one of their guns, cut the skin of his throat. He thought it was the jugular vein, but in putting his hand up to stop the outpouring blood, he found it was dry. He served a year under General Thomas in the Canada campaign, at Montreal and Quebec. When he returned to Walpole he settled down on the old Stearns farm where he lived with his wife Molly Gilman, mentioned above.

In 1779 Moses Stearns sold to Ephraim for £100 "1½ of farm I now live on (the same 100 acres as from Bellows), reserving front room on westerly end of house and bedroom at northwest corner with chamber over and cellar under and 1½ of barn".

Ephraim enjoyed in his old age living his life over again, in telling his youthful exploits. In stature he was about five feet five inches, and in the times of cider and cider brandy turned the beam at 206 pounds, but after he abstained from the use of alcoholic drinks he weighed about 150 pounds. Of his thirteen children the third, Stephen, stayed on the home farm, buying a half interest from his father in 1818 for \$2000.

In 1863 Josiah, son of Stephen, bought out his stepmother's interest in the place, reserving for her the use of the western part of the house for one year, and sold to William M. Johnson of Rockingham, Vt. It is interesting to note that it was always the west end of the house that was reserved. The original part of the house was built in 1774, the east and west parts added later. Judging by the remaining foundations there were large barns east of the road. During the ownership of Ephraim and Stephen the farm had grown from 100 acres to 175 acres. Ephraim had bought in 1785 the west 38 acres of the lot to the north, and apparently the rest of the lot had been added. Farm is wooded now.

Johnson owned the farm until 1890 when it was taken over by the Bellows Falls Savings Institution; 1891 to Charles W. Adams of Bernardston, Mass., apparently for the lumber; 1893 to Emma M. Putnam "reserving wood and timber on west side of highway leading by dwelling house on premises except shade trees near house and fruit trees in field until April 1, 1895. . . ." In 1898 the place was sold to Copley Amory, "reserving possession of buildings to Jan. 1, 1900, and right for grantor to pasture her live stock for season of 1899 and all crops of corn, potatoes, apples, pumpkins, beans and garden truck now standing." Amory removed the house.



John W. Prentiss wrote of this place: "Benjamin Gates and his descendants lived on the old Gates place, now owned by the town and water company. This was formerly the Stearns farm before it was bought by William Johnson who married a daughter of Benjamin Gates and became wealthy during the Civil War. I have always regretted the passing of this old place with magnificent giant elms in the yard and the view from the knoll just back of the house, one of the finest in town, backed by mountains across the valley of the Connecticut River and Bellows Falls."

457. CELLARHOLE: A short distance south of the old Starkweather place, toward the Stearns farm, there is a stone wall southeast from the road. In the corner by the road south of this wall is a cellarhole. The wall represents the north line of the Stearns farm, so this cellarhole was evidently on the Stearns land. None of the Stearns' deeds make any reference to buildings here. That would be on land that Benjamin Bellows sold to Stearns 1785, but it may be on the corner that Elisha Eldridge sold to Stephen Stearns 1818.

Now for the east side of the road. In 1846 Otis Bardwell sold what seems to be this corner of land to Stephen Stearns. He had previously sold the land next east to Almira Starkweather. Benjamin Redington may have owned about 1792. Marsh may have owned about 1784, called the Marsh Lot, no deeds. Whatever there was is lost in antiquity.

458. STARKWEATHER CELLARHOLES: The plot where the buildings stood Benjamin Bellows sold to Ephraim Stearns around 1785; 1792 to Levi Stearns; 1794 to Samuel Chaffin of Acworth, he immediately to Elisha Eldridge. Elisha added more land, erected buildings, including two houses, cellarholes still here north of road. In 1833 he sold the farm to his son-in-law, Lemuel Starkweather, with the following provisions: The Eldridges were to occupy the house on the farm which she (Cynthia) selected before April 1 next; the chamber now finished in the larger house was to be for the use of whichever family had the smaller house; Lemuel will provide cut and split wood for one fire, in case of sickness for two fires; Lemuel to provide and keep for the use of Elisha and Cynthia two good cows to be cared for by Lemuel and milked whenever Cynthia desires and Elisha to have milk, butter, and cheese and calves produced by said cows; Lemuel to keep 5 sheep, Elisha to have wool and lambs produced; annually on or before Dec. 31 to have 200 lb. good pork, 20 lb. lard, 100 lb. good beef (in November) and 20 lb. tallow, said pork and beef to be cut up and put in the cellar of house occupied by Elisha, he finding barrels for same; 5 bu. good wheat or 200 lb. wheat flour, 7 bu. corn and 3 bu. rye (two latter delivered in December); to



keep on the farm a horse, wagon, and sleigh for Elisha's and Cynthia's use whenever they desire; pay all expense of sickness and care; annually in December 15 bu. good apples or \$5.00; 12 bu. potatoes, suitable quantity Garden sauce or \$2.00; suitable boots and shoes and procure and deliver in June of each year a pig of from 5 to 7 weeks old. . . .

The houses were gone by 1895—family died or moved away. There were barns south of the road as late as 1891. In 1931 the Walpole Water & Sewer Company bought the land south of the road. Land north of the road went out of the family 1878, probably logged, and now belongs to William Burrows.

Prentiss wrote: "For many years we carried on the Starkweather land, now (1942) owned by the Walpole Company, and covered with timber. I have mowed the old mowings by hand quite a number of times, and remember when the house and barns were there, and going with my mother and visiting Mrs. Ashley Starkweather. She had silk worms, feeding them the leaves from the mulberry trees growing in the yard. There was a log house near the corner just north of the Starkweather place, and a family was living in it at that time."

459. DR. I. TUCKER BURR—(GILBERT ESTATE): The Gilbert Estate apparently included the Holland land, which was the south part of the Kilburn 100 acre lot, and the Thomas Sparhawk land north of North Road.

Dr. Abraham Holland, the third physician to settle in Walpole, came to town immediately after completing his studies at Dartmouth College and commenced practice 1779. In 1788 he purchased John Kilburn's farm on the Drewsville Road on the following terms: "the house where said John now dwells with an addition of one small room built thereto at my cost, the plott of ground north of said house which hath been occupied as a garden and allow them privilege to get wood for fires, the produce of apple trees within said garden spot with addition of one apple tree by hog pen and another known by name of the butternut tree, a place to build a hog pen and use of water at the well and elsewhere and a dooryard for to lay wood in, egress and —gress to and from house aforesaid, liberty to pasture horse and cow in summertime paying for same, Abraham Holland promises above as long as John, Hannah and Mehitable choose to enjoy them personally."

Holland built the house, later altered by the Gilberts; 1823 to Daniel Brooks and removed to Newfane, Vt.; 1833 for \$4000 to Lincoln Brooks; 1848 to Louisa Hayward; 1851 to her son John W.; 1866 for \$5500 to



Leonard B. Holland; 1869 to Major J. Britton; 1892 to Frederick M. Gilbert.

The Gilbert Estate also included that part of Thomas Sparhawk's tract north of North Road with the Sparhawk house on the Main Street corner.

The Gilberts first lived on the Wilson place on the plain. The story is told that Major Britton's son-in-law, Norman Schultz, came up from New York looking forward, after the noise and turmoil of the city, to a good night's rest. It was right in coonhunting season, and his friend T. N. Hastings decided to do something about that good sleep. Having recently killed two coons, he took the tails and dragged them round and round the Britton house in ever smaller circles. At ten o'clock he released his coon dogs.

From this property the Gilbert heirs sold the following: 1954 to Leslie Hubbard the east  $34\frac{1}{2}$  acres, Hubbard building a house; 1955 to Dr. I. Tucker Burr the 6.84 acres east of the Drewsville Road, including the Gilbert house; 1955 to Thomas R. Spratley, engineer, the 8.64 acres east of Burr, including the cottage of the Gilbert estate. The Spratley property now belongs to Dr. Burr.

The barn burned Nov. 6, 1920.

460. IRA HUBBARD HOME FARM: In 1755 Benjamin Bellows deeded to John Kilburn 100 acres "being 4th Lot in number in the Middle Range of Lotts as laid out", that is, Lot #4 in the 1st Range of Hill Lots, and lying east of the road from Walpole Village to Drewsville (Hubbard Road).

John Kilburn in 1772 sold 50 acres across the north and east sides of the lot to his son John Jr., gentleman, for 20 sh., reserving "for myself during my natural life the use and improvement of about 2 acres of improved land within the aforesaid bounds lying east of my house where I now dwell. I also reserve to myself and heirs the privilege of getting timber and stone" and "privilege of passing . . . with my team", allowing his son the same privilege on his land. From this it appears that John Kilburn's house was probably near the northwest corner of the portion he did not sell. That 50 acres on which he was still living, he sold to Abraham Holland in 1788. John Jr. sold his place to Levi Hubbard in 1791.

The Hubbard place also includes a 20 acre strip extending along the west side of the road for 100 rods, 30 rods deep. This Levi Hubbard



bought of Samuel Trott for £80 in 1793, Trott had it from his father, Samuel, who bought it in 1779 from Ezra Carpenter for £30 16 sh.

The property is still in the Hubbard family, occupied by Ira Hubbard. The Hubbard house was built about 1800. A clock set in place then has never been moved.

461. BOOTH FARM: In 1849 William Bellows, son of Josiah, sold to Samuel Griffin 16 acres west of the Drewsville Road between Levi Hubbard and John Bellows (formerly Thomas) for \$640; 1865 Clarissa, widow of Samuel Griffin, to Dolphus Booth this farm and a 10 acre lot for \$1900.

In 1922 Edwin and Lois Booth divided the property, Edwin having the home farm and Lois and Charles the cottage house and land in the corner next to the road, north of the Hubbard line.

Dolphus Booth was here sometime before he bought the place. The Booth buildings burned September 1877, fire first discovered in tobacco barn. The Richard Starkweather house was taken down to build the new house. The hill farm (#464) was sold to settle the estate when Edwin died.

462. CHARLES E. HEWITT: In 1925 Copley Amory sold the Bellows Homestead Farm on Rt. 12 to Clifford L. Sturtevant and George Warwick, Jr. They sold the part east of the highway in 1925 to Charles E. Hewitt whose house is at the east end of the land near the Hubbard (Drewsville) Road.

463. WILLIAM I. PHIPPS: In 1950 Charles E. Hewitt sold the part of his land east of the Hubbard Road to Austin I. Hubbard; 1951 a building lot to William I. Phipps who built his house here.

464. BOOTH HILL FARM: This was known as the Sugar Place in 1771 when Benjamin Bellows sold to his son John. It lay north of the old road from south of William Phipps' house easterly to the Reservoir Road. There was a very old road (no town record) which turned more northerly into this lot. John Bellows willed the farm, about 120 acres, "which Jesse Stearns lately lived on", to his son Roswell; 1813 to Samuel B. Dana and Thomas Bellows 2nd "farm on which John Osgood now lives". In 1820-1, Bellows & Dana having failed, most of this property came to Stephen Rowe Bradley; from him to Josiah G. Bellows; 1861 to James Hooper; 1865 35 acres to Andrew J. Hadley (Mary E.) of Boston and Ambrose Hadley (Angeline) late of 2nd Regiment R. I. Volunteers; 1866 to Adolphus S. Booth. In 1870 Booth bought the other 50 acres from Hooper and left the whole farm to his children. In 1922 Edwin Booth



bought the rights of his brother Fred's heirs. In 1924 Edwin's widow, Mabel C., sold to Russell G. Graves.

This farm was not usually occupied by the owner. It was here that Richard Starkweather lived, "a farmer by occupation and a fine singer". William Kirkpatrick of Langdon was here at one time.

After Col. Benjamin Bellows and Theodore Atkinson divided the town between them in 1766, Bellows sold many of the lots, but he kept for himself the tract that extended northerly from Walpole Village to the Atkinson tract at the south end of Fall Mountain, and easterly from the Connecticut River to the Hubbard Road or thereabouts. When he died in 1777, he left this tract to his sons Josiah, Thomas, Theodore and John.

Josiah's strip included where he lived at the north end of Main Street. On the Turnpike (Rt. 12) his south line passed south of the present Walter Kilburn place. His north line was north of the Mathers mill property. The Fessenden Farm (#43) had already been taken out.

Thomas had the homestead where his father had lived. His south line was north of the Mathers mill property, and his north line was south of the present Plumb farm buildings.

Theodore had from the Plumb buildings north to include the present Mack homestead.

John had the rest to the north, some of it before his father died.

465. HUBBARD HATCHERY (THE BELLOWS RIVER FARM): This was part of Josiah Bellows' share of his father's estate. His son William inherited the farm (see *Bellows Gen.* 114; 192-4) and probably built the house, southwest from the Mathers' place. He was a merchant at Drewsville with Edward Crosby and also at the Brick Block in Walpole Village in the firm Bellows & Peck. William later took up farming here, until his removal to Cincinnati about 1852.

In 1854 James Hooper Jr. bought the place. He sold this farm 1865 to his brother Henry W. of South Charlestown; 1866 to his brother Charles; 1891 estate to his sister-in-law Mary L. Hooper (Mrs. James Jr.); to her son Warren and daughter Lucretia; 1905 to Charles Angier (Mary) who lived here; 1946 to Hubbard Farms. They built the hatchery. The old Bellows-Hooper house stands well west of old Rt. 12, east of the new road, and was used as headquarters during construction of the new Rt. 12.

466. CARL SMITH ESTATE: In 1927 Angier sold to Carl Smith an acre in the point of the road north of the cemetery, and Smith built the house here.



467. MATHERS MILL AREA: In 1815 Josiah Bellows sold to Samuel Grant and Leonard Stone 20 acres of land along his north line. It included that portion of the high land south of R. N. Johnson's machinery sales rooms, where there is now the Quinlar sawmill and lumber yard; west to the east side of Josiah's meadow (about at the railroad now); south to what was the Charles Angier farm, now Hubbard Associates; east across the Turnpike (now Rt. 12); south of the Corey house and easterly to include that part of the mill pond south of Thomas Bellows' south line.

In 1818 Thomas Bellows gave them an indenture allowing them flowage rights from his line in the mill pond north to his cartway 196 rods from the mill dam on the turnpike and the right to turn Sikes Brook near the Sikes place and to convey same in a channel through his land into said pond about 32 rods "so long as they shall keep and maintain a good and sufficient gristmill on or near where said gristmill now stands."

Leonard Stone was Maj. Grant's son-in-law, having married his daughter Phebe in 1810. He is said to have been a carpenter, from 1818-9 he had a saddler's shop on the site of the library. They lived in Walpole 1813-23, in the Knapp house and the Gen. Bellows house. In 1823 his father having died, he returned to Watertown, Mass., to his father's farm (see *Bellows Gen.* 130, 252-3).

In 1826 Bellows & Grant, who had a stand for cloth dressing, sold the 20 acres to Calvin Tarbell and Thomas Hurlburt. They divided the property, Tarbell apparently having the mills by the road and a house south of the mills (where Mathers' house is 1961). Next south of this house was the lane, still here, which led westerly to Hurlburt's clothing works. He had a house east of the road (Corey 1961).

In 1830 Hurlburt sold to Wm. F. Moore and Charles T. Wetherbee the clothing works, which they were then occupying, and a piece east of the highway which must have been the land with Hurlburt's house. In 1831 Moore sold his share to Gardner Phillips (son-in-law of Israel Wightman); 1835 to Wetherbee.

In 1830 Uriah Newton of Peterborough and Benjamin Newton of Acworth bought of Tarbell his mills and house, Benjamin selling his share to Uriah 1831. In 1837 he bought also Wetherbee's holdings west of the road.

In 1861 Uriah and Mary Newton made the property over to Henry J. and Elizabeth Day of Keene with an arrangement for their support for their natural lives. Day and Jonathan Turner seem to have been in partnership, Turner having the house which stood south of the lane on the



west side of the road. At this time there was a sawmill on the north side of the brook west of the road, and a gristmill on the brook near the west end of the lot, perhaps what had been the clothing works earlier. The dam stood near the east side of the new Rt. 12 under construction 1961, south of the Mathers house foundation. There appear to have been two mill ponds, one east and another west of the old Rt. 12.

Probably the Days were daughter and son-in-law of the Newtons. One may guess that they died before 1865, leaving a child Edward who, at age 7 in 1870, was living with the Newtons.

In 1865 Newton sold to Lyman D. Hurd and bought a place on the River Road below the village; 1868 to David Morgan and Royal Pulsipher, Morgan to Pulsipher; 1871 to George Huntington; 1877 to Henry A. Willard; 1879 to Alonzo Jennings, to John Selkirk. He continued the saw and grist mills, and had a cider mill. In 1887 he built a capacious ice house.

In 1889 Selkirk sold his property here to Willis A. and Warren H. Colburn. According to the news report when Willis died in 1913, their father had first operated the gristmill by the railroad, and later bought the sawmill property of Selkirk. The sons continued to operate after his death. They combined the ice business with it and were the first to establish regular ice delivery in Walpole.

In 1912 they sold out to Charles H. Slade and moved into the village; 1922 to William J. and Harold W. Mathers, still in the family, although the mills are all gone. In 1950 the Mathers sold 6 acres and the sawmill on the bluff north to Richard M. and Marjorie L. Bragg; 1953 Bragg estate to Milton A. Quinlar, now Quinlar Lumber Company.

468. HOUSE AT GRISTMILL SITE: On the west end of the lot north side of brook, where the old gristmill had stood, Elwin and Lottie M. Mathers built a house, having a right of way on the old lane which had led to the mill. This they sold in 1950 to Clinton and Joan A. Clay of Perkinsville, Vt.; 1953 to Clifton C. and Josephine Mae Chapman; 1957 to Wendell O. and Betty G. Darrell; 1958 back to Chapmans; to John A. and Agnes R. Mansur. Now (May 1961) the house has been removed to make way for the new Rt. 12.

CELLARHOLE SOUTH OF MATHERS: After Tarbell sold the mill property in 1830, he bought from Josiah Bellows a small piece of land south of the lane, which led to the mill on the west end of the mill lot, and built a house here. In 1836 he sold to Charles T. Wetherbee; 1837 to Calvin Tarbell then of Langdon; 1843 Tarbell then of Boston to David C.



Thompson; 1844 to John A. Butterfield; 1848 to Jonathan H. Putney; 1852 to William Bellows (Freeman Roundy lived here); 1855 to Jonathan Turner (Almaria); 1858 to William Chappell. (Samuel Turner was living here and Jonathan had removed to Keene.) Day & Turner (probably Jonathan) had the gristmill in 1861.

In 1861 Chappell sold to Wilson W. Colburn; 1872 to John L. Hubbard, to George Huntington, to Mary and Rosalov A. Howard. The house burned Monday morning, Oct. 6, 1884; sold Feb. 12, 1886, to John Selkirk. Has since gone with the property next north.

469. RAYMOND COREY: When Phillips sold the mill property, he seems to have reserved what is now the Corey house east of the highway south of the mill pond; 1847 to George W. Grant; 1849 to Henry S. Allen, 1/2 acre; 1886 heirs to Stephen V. B. Allen; 1945 his daughter Luella J. Allen Kilburn (Mrs. Arthur) to her granddaughter Mildred Corey (Mrs. Raymond).

470. MRS. ELWIN MATHER: On the north side of the brook, west of the road in 1839 Uriah Newton sold land with house to Joseph S. Farrington (Emeline); 1842 to Jacob A. Hunt; 1846 to Uriah Newton. Thus it came back to the mill property with which it is still connected.

THOMAS BELLOWS' SHARE FROM HIS FATHER'S ESTATE: Squire Thomas Bellows inherited his father Col. Benjamin Bellows' home farm in 1777 at the age of 15 years, and lived at the homestead his father had built in 1762.

The squire was somewhat peculiar in his ways, particularly due to an infirmity of speech. When a stranger once asked him the distance to Charlestown his peculiar nervous utterance was unintelligible. In his impatience, he blurted out, "Go 'long, go 'long, you'll get there 'fore I can tell ye."

At church he had a way of standing in his pew and counting those present—that is, the men. He was not content until he knew the reason for any absences, and the name of any stranger and from whence he came.

Dr. Bellows said of him: "I can see his tall and broad figure, with his white neckcloth and pepper-and-salt clothes, leaning over the pew at meeting, in time of prayer, with no affectation of closed eyes or special sanctity of visage, but with perfect respect to the occasion. He did not know how to put anything on."

"The Squire had a wonderful memory of dates and events, knowing the exact age of all his relatives and sometimes correcting those who tried to make themselves out younger than they were. . . . As he drove about the town he would generally stop and speak with every person whom he met and sometimes ask them where they were



going and what for. This habit occasionally called out an impertinent reply from strangers who did not know that it proceeded from kindness of heart. His townspeople confided in his good judgment and honesty. A voter, being asked on the morning of town meeting day whom he was going to vote for, replied: "I don't know. I haven't seen Squire Bellows yet." (*Bellows Genealogy* 90-98)

The squire was followed on the farm by his son Thomas. He prepared for the ministry and held several pastorates, but because of poor health retired to his father's farm, taking over the management in 1837. "Although he made his farm support his somewhat expensive household, and preserved his heritage unimpaired, he was too conservative in his methods to become a successful farmer." He never married, and upon his death the ancestral home went in 1890 to the American Board of Foreign Missions.

Copley Amory bought the 350 acre farm in 1890. In the 35 years that he owned the place he undertook many varying projects: built reservoirs on the hill to the east to provide adequate water supply; planted an apple orchard on the slope from the east; laid out a golf course on the Hubbard Road; built a road across from his buildings to the Hubbard Road (now grown up); in 1899 built the stone water tub east of the highway opposite the old house; built the large barn east of the meadows, and the red barn east of the road, replacing a long string of dilapidated barns.

471. DAVID J. ALEXANDER—BENJAMIN BELLOWS HOMESTEAD: In 1925 Amory sold to Clifford L. Sturtevant and George Warwick, Jr.; 1926 to Jennie M. Ketcham of New York City, who operated as the Stagecoach Inn; 1934 to Savings Bank of Walpole; 1943 to Ralph N. Johnson all of the estate west of the highway and all land south of Hewitts on the east side; 1946 to Ralph N. Johnson from Hewitt the land south of the farm road.

In 1944 Johnson sold the main (or mansion) house to Dr. Harry Goldman and Ruth V. A. Goldman; Feb. 1950 to George J. and Helen M. Audet; Dec. 1950 to David J. and Marie A. Alexander who maintained it as a nursing home until recently. It is now vacant.

West of Rt. 12 the house lots south of the main house were numbered beginning at the west end of the plateau and progressing northerly. Amory built the large barn here and the older houses in 1890. The town accepted the road here as a street in 1944. Johnson sold most of these houses or lots.

472. MARK B. HOWARD: In 1944 to Mark B. and Alice C. Howard. House built by Amory.



473. LOUIS GOODRICH: In 1944 to Louis and Annie M. Goodrich. House probably built by Amory.
474. LOUIS GOODRICH JR.: Louis Goodrich sold to his son Louis Jr. in 1955. Louis Jr. built the house on what was a garden plot for #473.
475. CASWELL MENARD: In 1944 to Caswell and Virginia Menard. House built by Amory.
476. KENNETH E. JENNISON: In 1944 to Kenneth E. and Florence C. Jennison.
477. GEORGE A. FOGG: In 1944 to George A. and Helen S. Fogg.
478. JOSEPH KOPACZ: In 1944 to Joseph and Wilma J. Kopacz.
479. LLOYD E. BROOKS: In 1954 Joseph Kopacz sold house lot to Lloyd E. and Marilyn Kopacz Brooks. They built the house.
480. AUGUST R. SPECKMAN: In 1949 to August R. and Rosemary Speckman.
481. KENNETH GUNNERSON: In 1948 to Julian H. and Janette S. Snow; 1948 to Henry P. and Matilda Narkiewicz; 1959 to Kenneth D. and Beverly Gunnerson.
482. RALPH N. JOHNSON: In 1948 to Claude A. and Flora Goodrich; 1950 back to Johnson.
483. DAVID B. WALLACE: In 1948 to David B. and Carolyn J. Wallace.
484. JAMES H. SMITH: In 1950 the Audets sold to R. N. Johnson the house lot north of the mansion. He gave it to his son Thomas F. Johnson who built the house; 1960 to James H. and Joanne C. Smith.
485. RALPH N. JOHNSON: The old building south of the mansion house is used by R. N. Johnson as headquarters for his extensive farm machinery business.

In 1925, Charles E. Hewitt, Jr., bought most of the Bellows farm on the east side of the road from Sturtevant and Warwick. Hewitt's primary interest was in the orchard, and he built his home near the Hubbard Road, facing toward the west. One bad season after another brought an end to the apple business here.

486. HARLEY SMITH: In 1934 Hewitt sold the land along Rt. 12 to John W. Good and in 1946 sold Good another section of land; 1946 to Charles



S. and Leona Bain; 1950 to Harley and Jessica Smith. Good built the house. This has been carried on as a poultry and produce farm with a roadside stand, called "Westview".

487. HARLEY SMITH: Small house that is rented.

488. HICKS MACHINE: In 1951 Johnson sold 3.7 acres east of the highway at the south edge of the plateau to S. Trafford Hicks who erected a shop building and operates a machine shop here under the name of Hicks Machine, Inc.

## MAPLEWOOD PARK

In 1948 a plan of house lots was made east of Rt. 12. Parallel with the highway, about midway of the field, Maplewood Avenue was laid out, and Maplewood Drive was laid out as a road passing around the north, east and south sides of the field. The town accepted the roads in 1962. Johnson began selling off the land, but in 1953 sold the remainder to James F. and Eleanor K. Bolles who have continued the development.

489. NASIF REALTY: A building was erected and leased to H. P. Hood & Sons, Inc., in 1953. Hood used the building as an egg processing plant and closed down in 1962 because of the drop off in local production of market eggs.

490. DANIEL T. RANDALL: In 1948 Johnson sold to Daniel T. and Blanche E. Randall.

491. PETER M. JANISZYN: In 1948 Johnson sold to Carlton L. and Dorothy Ethel Thurston; 1955 to Peter M. and Joan A. Janiszyn.

492. ETIENNE W. CHALOUX: In 1961 Bolles sold to Etienne W. and Barbara C. Chaloux. The house was moved here from Westminster Street, east of the Savings Bank.

493. GILBERT E. ROSS: In 1961 Bolles sold to Gilbert E. and Theresa A. Ross. The house was the former Dunham house on Depot Hill.

494. FRANK S. JACOBS: In 1955 Bolles sold Lot 8 to Francis E. and Evelyn S. Roberts who built the house; 1957 to Frank S. and Dorothy C. Jacobs. In 1960 Jacobs bought Lot 9 from Bolles.

495. GLEN T. BOYNTON JR.: In 1957 Bolles sold to Wallace E. and Alice M. Albro; 1961 to Glen T. Jr. and Genevieve L. Boynton. Albro built the house.



496. WALLACE E. ALBRO: In 1960 Bolles sold to Lloyd and Della Harter; 1961 to Wallace E. and Alice M. Albro who built the house.
497. DAVID C. BUCKMAN: In 1961 Bolles sold to Wallace E. and Alice M. Albro; 1962 to David C. and Ronna L. Buckman.
498. WALLACE E. ALBRO: In 1962 Bolles sold to Wallace E. and Alice M. Albro.
499. RODNEY R. MACARTHUR: In 1961 Bolles sold to Rodney R. and Annie F. MacArthur. The house was the former Kiniry house on Depot Hill.

#### THEODORE BELLOWS' SHARE OF HIS FATHER'S ESTATE

500. FRANCIS PLUMB: Theodore Bellows' share of his father's estate lay next north of the Homestead, the south line about where Plumb's buildings are now, the north line north of the Mack place.

In 1783 Theodore sold this to his brother Thomas whose son Isaac had what is now, for the most part, the Plumb Farm.

Isaac Bellows removed to Massachusetts and sold the farm 1858 to Charles Hooper. He built and lived in the second house south of the library in the village, operating his farm from there. According to Prentiss "He was a great sheep man, for many years buying every fall several thousand lambs which he sold to the farmers, who fed them through the winter, and sold them in the spring as fat lambs at a good profit from the gain in weight and price."

In 1879 he sold to William Hooper; 1898 to George D. Hooper; 1922 his heirs to George H. Hooper; 1933 to Napoleon Boudrieau; 1941 to Perlle P. and Grace M. Albee; 1947 to R. N. Johnson; 1953 to Francis E. Plumb and Miriam R. Otis.

The barn burned and was rebuilt in 1911 while George D. Hooper owned and George H. Hooper occupied. It burned again in 1938 and was rebuilt.

The road from Walpole Village north, when surveyed in 1774, did not follow the present course here but near the Bellows homestead turned northeasterly and ascended the bank diagonally near the southeast side of Hubbards' poultry range. There is a cellarhole here at the top of the bank. This would have been a part of the Theodore Bellows' strip, but there is no record of ownership other than for the farm as listed above. Possibly Theodore built himself a house here. The brook nearby acquired the name of Sikes Brook and it seems evident that it was here that Nathaniel Sikes had his mill. In 1818 Thomas Bellows referred to that



part of Blanchard Brook which he allowed to be turned toward the mill-pond as Sikes Brook, and the point on the brook as "near the Sikes place."

In October 1797 reference is made to Nathaniel Sikes suffering losses and thanking his friends for their assistance. He then wanted an apprentice in the clothier's business.

501. HUBBARD ASSOCIATES—HUNTINGTON FARM: In 1852 Isaac Bellows (Elenora) sold to George Huntington 36 acres on the high land, north part of his farm, west of the road; his estate 1877 to Susan M. Barnard (John) of Watertown, Mass.; 1881 to Frederick H. Holland of Keokuk, Iowa; 1895 Frederick H. and Laura C. Holland of Millis, Mass. to Thomas Nelson Hastings; 1897 to Mary J. Leonard; 1903 Mary J. and Henry O. Leonard to Cleora M. Brigham; 1915 to Jason E. Herrick of Boston; 1915 to James H. Williams of Rockingham (Sarah); 1915 to Edward M. Herrick of Rockingham; 1917 to Lura A. Moseley of Rockingham; 1918 to Abraham G. and Annie Westover; 1922 to Frederick J. and Nellie M. Martin; 1924 to Ira S. and Oliver J. Hubbard. Since 1931 it has belonged to Hubbard Farms.

There was a pine grove in front of house; 1896 Rev. Bard and Pratt held Sunday afternoon meetings here; it had to be cleared away after 1938 hurricane.

502. R. N. JOHNSON: While the Brigham-Leonards were here, they built for their farmer a two-story yellow house next north. In 1903 it was referred to as the cottage Mary Leonard occupied. In 1921 the Westovers sold 8 acres here to Frederica F. Knight, land and buildings. Life was turbulent here according to contemporary news reports. The house burned July 3, 1930, from fire crackers on the roof. The back part of the house was saved and made into a dwelling. Ralph M. Knight Jr. sold 1959 to R. N. Johnson. Now (1962) the old cellarhole is being filled, the lot graded.

503-504. R. N. JOHNSON: In 1962 The Blackboard, the old #14 School in the point between the roads, was cut in two, moved west of #502, and made into two dwellings.

Land for School #14 came out of the Theodore Bellows land. The first school stood at the foot of the hill, west of the road, north of the brook, land granted by Thomas Bellows 1839. The second school was the building standing until 1962 in the fork of the roads at the top of the hill, land taken 1888 from John Houghton. When the new school was built



in the village 1950, this schoolhouse was sold 1953 to Burleigh R. Darling; town took for taxes 1960. The Darlings operated it as a restaurant called The Blackboard.

Water for the Huntington, Houghton and Angier places came from a spring near Carl Hewitt's (1962). Once in 20 years Thomas Bellows, owner, would plug the pipes. John Houghton drilled the first well in town east of the old #14 School. It cost \$2250 and produced nice soft water.

505. ADOLPHUS MACK: Next north of the Huntington farm, and out of Theodore Bellows' farm, Isaac Bellows sold 1852, 21 acres to James Benson west of the road and in 1859, 45 acres east of the road to Silas M. Bates. Benson (Lucy) sold his to Bates in 1859; Bates (Fanny) sold 1861 to Amanda Pingrey (Daniel); 1865 to John Hooper; 1884 estate to John L. Houghton. The farm descended to his granddaughters Rachel McDonald and Doris Mack, daughters of his son George. The Macks now own and occupy the homestead; 1939 sold most of the land to Hubbard Farms.

## JOHN BELLOWS' SHARE OF HIS FATHER'S ESTATE

In 1755 Col. Benjamin Bellows deeded three plots to John Kilburn "in consideration of duty being done on one right or share of land. . . ." One was 100 acres where Ira Hubbard now lives; one was 12 acres of meadow north of Cold River; and one was 50 odd acres "where Kilburn now lives", the area where the Kilburn marker (placed on a tree 1890, then a stone which was taken up and replaced when new road built 1961) is on Rt. 12. The two latter plots John Kilburn Jr. sold to John Bellows for £200 in 1788. In 1771 his father (Col. Benj. Bellows) gave him 700 acres here and 100 acres "at place called the Sugar Place, . . . the southwest corner near path that leads from Kilburn's to Alstead. . . ." This later was the Booth hill farm.

About 1792, at least by 1794, John built for his son Josiah 2nd a tavern west of the highway at Hatch's Corner (#506). Josiah was a roistering blade and his social qualities gathered around him those of the same kith. He was still here and licensed to keep tavern in 1796. This was on the State Road from Hale's Bridge to Chester and was apparently expected to be a much travelled road. This was the only bridge over the Connecticut River.

In 1797 John Bellows sold the 700 acres to Thomas and Isaac Redington, merchants and taverners in Walpole Village. They sold the farm as follows:



1. In 1802 to Moses Bennett the 50 acres in the southwest corner between the Third N. H. Turnpike and the river, the land on the plain next south of Louis Ballam and north of Mack (1962).

2. In 1806 east of the Turnpike opposite Bennett to Charles Stratton.

3. In 1801 (recorded 1805) to Thomas Seaver of Townsend, Mass., the strip next north of #1 and #2, from the river to the east line of the tract, including Louis Ballam farm (1962) and the old Blanchard farm.

4. In 1801 350 acres, all north of Seaver, to Samuel Wightman.

506. DEAN AND BRESSOR'S WIGHTMAN PLACE: Samuel Wightman was well along in years when he came to Walpole with his family in 1801 from Rehoboth, Mass., and purchased from the Redingtons all but the south part of the John Bellows' tract. He lived in the house (site of Bressor 1961) which Josiah Bellows had had for a tavern. In 1816 he conveyed to his son Israel "all land south of Cold River and east of the Turnpike with buildings thereon, occupied now by Israel," except for a piece in the northeast corner on the road to Drewsville, which he had sold to Almerin Parker, his son-in-law.

In 1834 Israel conveyed a half interest to his son Herman; 1836 his son-in-law Gardner Phillips took over both halves, about 200 acres; 1843 Phillips sold out of this the meadow south of Cold River, between the stone bridge at the foot of the hill and the Turnpike bridge which was farther west, to Warren Daniels; 1834 the tract where the Abeniqui Springs were was also sold to Daniels.

In 1849 Phillips sold the farm (170 acres) to Nathan Woods of Keene; 1852 to Daniels the land east of the "Upper" road and north of the road to Drewsville, 48 acres, reserving use of barn and sheds for three years; 1853 Woods sold the farm to Thomas N. Keyes, 116 acres. The house burned about 1867; Keyes built the present house. The Keyes estate sold 1890 to Jennie M. Hatch, 7 acres, including the homestead; 1901 to Phebe S. Stratton (J. W.); 1920 to Robert L. and Marjorie M. Howard of Somerville, Mass.; 1925 to Olive G. Hayward; 1926 to Elroy E. and Susie W. Reed of Acworth and Charles and Grace M. Muzzey of Charlestown; 1934 (Mrs. Muzzey had died) to Maitland C. Lovell (Ethel); 1935 to W. C. and Laura Dean of Springfield, N. H. and Nellie M. Bressor of Rockingham, the same 7 acres.

Hatch had a slaughter barn; Hetty Green used to come to this farm to buy one egg at a time.



## THE FOLLOWING PLACES WERE ALL SOLD OUT OF THE ISRAEL WIGHTMAN FARM

507. WAYNE M. ALBEE: In 1851 Nathan Wood sold to Warren Daniels 48 acres east of the "Upper" Road and north from Rt. 123 to Cold River; 1854 to Frank Moore of Dorchester, Mass.; 1854 to Charles C. Moore of New York City who built the big house. He had considerable financial difficulty and Peter Hayward of Keene foreclosed 1881, Moore then of San Francisco; estate 1883 to Harriet A. Russell of Keene; 1888 to Charles W. and Mary E. Tole "tract with buildings except one that belongs to Samuel D. Tinker in front of the barn." Harriet exchanged this place for Tole's Killeen place in North Walpole (corner of River and Main Streets). Mary left her share to her brother Charles who lived here with his family until his death 1908. He was a carpenter and farmer, worked for Copley Amory. With his brother-in-law Herbert G. Royce he built several houses in North Walpole. His heirs sold the place in 1924 to Charles Comstock of Keene; 1926 to Myron J. Bowen; 1936 to Clark H. Bowen of Rockingham; 1955 to Maynard P. Albee; 1956 to Wayne M. and Elizabeth C. Albee. Now apartments.

The house was beautifully finished off with a cupola on top. Moore built it with idea of taking boarders. Mrs. Weymouth remembered a Moses Elliott family living here. The children, Ferdinand, Orlando, Edward and Joseph, went to school with the Jennisons. Joseph fell into a vat of beer at the brewery and drowned. She recalled a school party here when the whole house was warmed even though the rooms were bare.

508. DANA M. MARTIN: When Harriet Russell sold to the Toles, she reserved 37 acres (woodland) which she sold 1889 to Daniel C. Howard; to Nathan G. Woodbury of Keene; heirs 1899 to Jerome C. Field; heirs 1914 to Fred T. Tole. In 1950 Violet Tole sold 2.75 acres about 20 rods east of Hatch's Corner to Dana M. and Evelyn M. Martin who have built a house here.

In 1951 Violet Tole sold the rest of the tract to William E. and Gladys M. Doyle, her daughter and son-in-law.

509. WILLIAM J. FENNESSY: In 1880 Thomas N. Keyes sold to Charles Cross an acre of land part way down the hill north of the Keyes house, west of the road. Cross probably built the house; 1893 to Miss Minnie E. Putney; 1893 to Milan D. Royce; 1905 to Wilson W. Colburn; 1906 to Charles A. and Maude Etta Moulthrop; 1909 to Hattie Stearns Wilson; 1918 to Walter C. Hadley of Rockingham; 1918 to John A. and Gillian R.



Gifford; 1922 to Patrick J. and Susan T. Fennessy; 1947 estate to John P. and Mildred Fennessy; 1951 to William J. & Marion P. Fennessy.

510. R. N. JOHNSON: In 1875 Thomas N. Keyes sold the 125 acres east of the Upper Road and south of the road to Drewsville to Herbert C. Hatch. The farm buildings were on this side of the road. The Hatches probably lived in the Philip Smith (1961) house, known as "the small Hatch house". The Hatches bought the large house after Mr. Keyes died. In 1899 Burt Chellis bought from the Hatch estate the part east of the Upper Road; 1901 to Herbert D. Ryder; 1920 to John A. Duncan; 1935, John having died, his wife, Martha A. Duncan, sold to William T. and Fred A. Ramsay. William Ramsay and his wife Josephine were in the Cocoanut Grove fire in Boston and William died. In some miraculous way Josephine got out although badly burned and was in the hospital for a long time. Fred Ramsay, father of William, gave this property to Josephine and her daughter Mary. They sold to R. N. Johnson. The Ramsays built the house here which faces on the Drewsville Road.

511. PHILLIP A. CYR: In 1901 Chellis sold the small Hatch house and lot to Minnie L. Converse (Leslie G.) of Westminster; 1902 to Herbert D. Ryder (Margaret E.) of Rockingham who also had the farm; 1903 to Mary E. Stowell; 1945 estate to Walter H. Reed; 1946 to Robert Jr. and Margaret A. Veitch of Rockingham; 1956 to William J. and Marion N. Fennessy; 1958 to Philip N. and Aline C. Smith of Rockingham, 1961 to Philip A. and Priscilla A. Cyr.

512. FRANCIS A. JOHNSON: West of the Upper Road the Deans & Bressors sold in 1950 a house lot to Frank B. Jr. and Era J. Easton who built house 1952; sold 1960 to Thomas J. Jr. and Margaret M. Hagan, 1960 to Francis A. and Rachel M. Johnson.

513. HERBERT G. ROYCE ESTATE: In 1884 Herbert G. Royce (no connection with Walpole Royce family, Herbert's parents came from England) bought from the Hatches a house lot south of the Hatch small house. He was a carpenter and wheelwright, built the house, where his children still live. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary here in 1940.

May 1894 Royce's three-year-old child fell into a cistern of running water in the kitchen. Herbert Bellows and companion passing by came in to help. One read directions for artificial respiration while the other put them into practice as well as he could and the child finally recovered.



514. MRS. TONY JAMES: In 1899 Chellis sold next south of Royce east of the Upper Road 4½ acres to Charles H. Robb and Edward L. Walker (Ruth) of Rockingham; 1904 to Mary E. Stowell; 1926 to Floyd J. and Lillian M. Westcott. The north house lot Lillian sold 1950 to Tony and Martha James who finished building the house. Mrs. James lives here now.

515. SYGMOND J. PONEK: The remainder of the lot Lillian M. Westcott sold 1940 to Earl A. and Frances L. Westcott. The middle part they sold 1948 to Sygmond J. and Antoinette James Ponек who built house and reside here.

516. FREDERICK W. WYMAN: On the south part (See 515) Earl Westcott built the house; 1947 to Frederick W. and Margaret C. Wyman of Rockingham.

517. GLADYS M. DOYLE: In 1899 Burt Chellis sold to Charles W. Tole five acres next south of what was later the Westcott property. In 1924, after his death, the lot was divided, the north half to his son Fred T. Tole, the south half to his son Harry W. Tole. In 1951 Fred's widow deeded her share to daughter and husband, Gladys M. and William E. Doyle; Toles built house.

518. JENNIE M. TOLE: Jennie M. Tole, widow of Harry W., now owns the house which he built on the north part of his share.

519. HARRY A. TOLE: The south part of the Harry W. Tole lot was sold 1959 to their son Harry A. Tole and wife Irma, built house about 1947.

520. JAMES M. NELSON: Next south of what is now the Toles' property Nathan Wood sold 1850 one acre to Warren Daniels and Algernon Sydney Baxter; all to Baxter 1851, plus an additional five acres. Baxter probably built the house. He was also interested in the Abeniqui Springs. In 1855 Baxter, then of New York City, sold to Horace Baxter of Rockingham; 1859 Horace Henry Baxter of Rutland to Thomas N. Keyes. This is probably the Keyes house where William Mellish was living 1868. In 1870 Keyes sold to Ambrose S. Wilder; 1871 to George Huntington; 1871 to Owen Sullivan of Bellows Falls. Other deeds refer to this property as belonging to James Sullivan 1884, 1899. In 1896 George A. Curtis, brother-in-law of Oliver Joslin, rented. In 1907 Owen Sullivan of Rockingham sold this property to Eugene and William Sullivan. There is a record that Eugene and Willie Sullivan attended #14 School in 1882.

In 1907 Emma L. Muzzy of Westminster bought the place; 1917 to



Burt A. Coddington of Rockingham; 1936 to James M. and Carrie M. Nelson.

521. JAMES E. NELSON: In 1950 the Nelsons sold a house lot north of their house to their son James E. Nelson and wife Ruth E.; they built house.

522. OTIS HOWE: In 1828 Israel Wightman sold to Nancy A. Johnson, spinster, one acre east of the highway next south of the Nelson place and next to the Blanchard north line. In 1849 Mary Johnson of Mobile, Ala., sold this property to Elisha Mayo. Mayo also bought additional land from Gardner Phillips (Permelia), his brother-in-law.

The Mayos sold 1864 to John O'Connell of Rockingham (Catharine); 1865 to Eliza Ann Holton of Alstead; 1867 to William J. Hall of Rockingham (Avis). Hall had a shop a little north of the house, made furniture, removed to Ludlow, then back to Walpole. Hall mortgaged to George R. Jennison who sold 1878 to Oliver T. Joslin. He did market gardening, principally strawberries, onions. His father and mother, from Vermont, joined the Shakers at Enfield about 1849, their two sons two years later. Oliver withdrew in 1872, came to Walpole, lived on Pleasant Street, then this farm. The parents followed after two years. Joslin sold to Clifford Sturtevant in 1907; 1912 to Jeremiah F. Haley; 1914 to Henry W. Porter of Bellows Falls; 1914 to Thomas C. Quinton; 1921 his sister, Nancy S. Chaffin of West Acton, Mass., to Jessie L. Dearborn; 1921 to Albert H. Ward; 1922 to Lovell B. and Ida B. Whitaker; 1925 to Myron M. and Elizabeth M. Ingalls; 1944 to James A. and Mabel M. Dunlap; 1951 to Edward J. and Natalie M. Rock; 1953 to Albert J. and Dorothy L. Boudrieau; 1962 to Otis Howe.

523. R. N. JOHNSON'S BLANCHARD FARM: This was the portion of the John Bellows' farm which Thomas Seaver bought of the Redingtons in 1805, east of the Turnpike. Seaver sold 1809 to Benjamin Davis; 1815 to Jonathan Blanchard. Of their children Roswell had the west part of the farm, the buildings on the Turnpike. A daughter Louisa was confined to her bed upward of forty years with a disease of the spine. Her brother Willard stayed at home, unmarried, and cared for her. In 1884 they sold the farm to Joseph Willson who moved the old house to a site west of the road, without disturbing Louisa in her bed. Willson built a handsome residence, lived here two or three years, then moved into the village for the winters. He was a retired grain and feed dealer, died 1896. In 1902 Alice B. Willson of Salem, Mass., sold to Lyman Chickering whose daughter



Jessie Dearborn lived here. Her son James S. of Westbury, L. I., sold 1954 to Ralph N. Johnson, now occupied by his son James Johnson.

There was a barn east of the road near the north line 1801, 1805. The Willson house burned Oct. 20, 1917 while Jessie Dearborn owned it. She built the present house.

524. WILLIAM J. BROWNLEE: Alice B. Willson sold in 1897 to Minnie E. Putney, the Blanchard house west of the highway; 1904 to William T. Wentworth; 1907 to Frank J. Wheeler; 1921 his widow Lora A. to Albert H. Ward of Westminster; 1921 to Jessie L. Dearborn; 1930 to William J. Brownlee, now owned by said Brownlee and Arleen Brownlee Bemis.

525. EDWARD J. ROCK: In 1941 Jessie Dearborn sold to Helen H. Drew a lot at her north line along the east side of the road; 1944 same with buildings to Edward J. Rock.

526. WALTER H. WRIGHT: In 1958 R. N. Johnson sold a lot in the south part of this farm, east of Upper Road, to Walter H. and Evangeline Wright who have built a house.

527. ROCK DAIRY FARM: This was the southeast corner of the land the Redingtons bought from John Bellows. More land has been added through the years. In 1806 Isaac Redington sold to Charles Stratton; Thomas Bellows Jr. resided here 1817; 1836 sold to George Huntington; 1840 to Francis Lock. He was born in Stoddard, came to Walpole at 21, worked for Josiah Bellows five years, later owned various farms, at 87 retired and was living in Claremont. He sold 1862 to George R. Jennison. The family lived here for 20 years. When George's father died, he moved to the village and had tenants on the farm. Every morning he drove a pair of chestnut Morgans to the farm here and did most of his farm work with them; keeping sheep and cattle. While he owned the farm, a graphite mine was opened in his pasture on the hill to the east. His heirs reserved one-half claim in the mine, should it ever be developed, when they sold 1909 to Harmon Whitton. The Savings Bank of Walpole sold 1918 to Adam Rock of Rockingham; 1950 his sons to Alfred P. and Louise P. Benoit of Plaistow; 1952 to Herman and Frayda Vontobel of Hempstead, New York.

The house has been somewhat changed through the years, front door moved from the side to the front. The old corn barn was the only thing unchanged in 1958. Jennison, after he moved to village, rented to Henry Slade 1887-9, then Morton Snow and others.

A new small house was built south of farmhouse by 1958 for farm help.



528. CECIL J. PATCH: This was part of what Samuel Wightman kept. His grandson-in-law Warren Daniels sold in 1849 to Joseph Wells land between the railroad and the Turnpike, south from Cold River to the Bardwell place. Wells built the brick house standing on the place. He was a contractor for building a section of the Cheshire Railroad in Walpole, liked the place so well that he settled here. The place remained in the Wells family until Joseph's grandson Edgar sold in 1942 to Cecil J. and May J. Patch.

529. RALPH A. HODGKINS: In 1961 Cecil J. Patch sold 3.43 acres to Ralph A. and Gloria H. Hodgkins who built a house.

530. LESLIE ADAMS: In 1930 Arthur Wells sold a house lot east of the road to Leslie Adams who erected buildings.

531. CHARLES D. KEEFE JR.: In 1842 Warren Daniels sold to Albert Carpenter (his brother-in-law) 13 acres next south of the Patch place; 1847 to Otis Bardwell. The north acre Bardwell sold 1850 to Willard J. Sawyer; 1852 to Amos A. Sawyer (Lydia) of Alstead; 1853 to Joseph Wells; 1853 to Samuel Logan (Mary Ann), of Troy; 1859 to Otis Bardwell; 1861 to Henry C. Rawson who probably erected buildings. After his wife died, he lived with his step-daughter Mary A. Howard (Charles H.) who inherited the place from him; 1910 to Stephen L. Dowlin of Rockingham; 1912 to Nancy E. Lawton of Rockingham; 1913 to Charles A. and Frances R. Williams; 1918 to Raymond G. and Carolyn S. Wright; 1922 to Elphege W. and Edna Morell; 1943 to Charles D. Jr. and Pearl J. Keefe.

532. JAMES C. HORTON: The south part of the lot above, Bardwell sold to Henry C. Rawson in 1861; 1897 to George S. Wilber of Rockingham; 1904 to Jonas N. Huntting; 1910 estate to Joseph Z. Aumand; 1919 to Patrick C. Cray; 1953 Margaret C. Adams, heir, to Teresa C. and Edward Bartlett Jr.; 1955 to James C. and Roberta L. Horton. Probably Rawson erected these buildings about 1851.

533. HAROLD S. LAWRENCE: In 1828 Zachariah Carpenter sold 10 acres next south of the present Horton place to Samuel W. Griffin; 1838 to Almerin Parker; his widow Nancy in 1856 to John H. Pool; 1868 his widow Sarah B. to Farquhar McRae; 1871 to Ambrose S. Wilder; 1875 to Levi Chapin; 1876 to Adeline Thompson who willed to Frances A. Hubbard. The buildings burned in August 1893, struck by lightning in the night. Hubbards sold the next spring to John R. Blood of Rockingham; 1898 to George M. Corey of Rockingham; 1899 to Philip and William de St.



Croix of Rockingham; 1902 to Herbert A. Dedrick of Rockingham; 1907 to Edward J. Snow; 1920 Lora A. Snow to Joseph B. Gray of Orleans, Vt. (Clara J.); 1924 to Ralph C. Roundy of Rochester, N. H.; 1932 to Henry W. and Mabel G. Mathers; 1935 Mabel G., widow, to Jacob P. and Teofila A. Koson; 1940 to Harold S. and Gladys B. Lawrence.

534. LOUIS BALLAM HOME PLACE: This was the west end of the strip that Thomas Seaver had out of the John Bellows' farm, west of the Turnpike. In 1805 Seaver sold the 51 acres to Isaac Redington; 1805 to Oliver Goodale; 1807 to Isaac Redington; 1811 to John Livingston; Asher Southworth had from his estate. The south part he sold 1818 to Stephen Tiffany; 1821 to George Sparhawk; 1839 to Otis Bardwell.

The north part Southworth sold 1819 to Joseph W. Frink; estate 1826 to Zephaniah Kidder; 1828 to Otis Bardwell. Otis Bardwell now had the whole lot again; 1865 to Allen M. Wilder; 1872 to Oliver C. Doolittle; 1875 Rufus Leonard foreclosed. The buildings burned Aug. 5, 1908 and were rebuilt.

Willie G. Leonard, son, sold 1912 to Charles O. Hurlburt of Rockingham; 1930 to Louis S. and Margaret Ballam. They erected the house and barn, replacing one burned Dec. 19, 1932.

535. THOMAS C. BALDWIN: The next place south, on the higher plain, Isaac and Thomas Redington sold 1802, 50 acres, the southwest corner of the John Bellows' farm, to Moses Bennett, baker. He gave it up to Redingtons in 1806; 1811 to Thomas Nichols Jr.; 1816 to Philip E. Bundy; 1817 to Stephen Tiffany; 1834 to Oliver Huntington. He died 1857 and the place was sold 1858 to Addison Miller (Asenath); 1859 to William C. White (Rhoda); 1863 to John B. Russell (Lucy); 1870 to George H. Angier. In 1908 it went to his daughter Lizzie O. Angier Ballam (George H.); 1943 to their son, Louis S. Ballam. The house burned Feb. 5, 1945 when occupied by Cecil Martin. In 1951 Louis Ballam gave a house lot here to Thomas C. and Virginia Baldwin who built a new house on the old cellarhole.

In November 1891 while George Angier was in his tobacco barn, a high wind moved it 18 inches off its foundation.

536. ELIZABETH L. BAILEY ESTATE: As early as 1858 Roswell S. Blanchard had the west part of his father's farm, the part east of Rt. 12; 1872 to Francis Locke (Ann); 1872 to Willard Hubbard; 1896 to Silas C. Albee (Lucy E.); 1899 to Willard Hubbard; 1899 to Elvira Stoodley; 1921 her husband Renwick to Ray J. Rand; 1926 his widow Vera S. and his mother



Emma L. sold the place to Frederick P. and Elizabeth L. Eaton Bailey; since 1953 leased to her son George F. Bailey. When the highway was widened in 1958 the house was moved to the south and east.

## WALPOLE VALLEY

Walpole Valley lies in the 1911 acre and the 582 acre tracts between the Atkinson strip on the north and the hill ranges on the south. Col. Benjamin Bellows sold a few lots in this tract before he died, but for the most part his sons John and Thomas had it, sharing somewhat with their brother Theodore.

The first roads to this area came over the hills from the village. In 1774 there was one over Jennison (Ramsay) Hill, then easterly to the town line, crossing the present Valley Road by Woods (1962). In 1781 there was a road from Ramsay Hill to the mills on Cold River near the Whitcomb gravel excavations. In 1785 a county road was laid north from Keene, following a course on the side of the hill south of the present Valley Road, dropping down into the Valley near the Dodge Tavern and continuing north through Drewsville. In 1802 this was connected with the roads from Hatch's corner.

Jonathan Royce was the big landowner in this area, at one time said to own more poor land than anyone else in town. Most, if not all, of the Royces here were descended from him, many through his daughter who married a cousin, Nehemiah Royce, who later owned much of the land here. Records are apt to be confusing because there was also a Rice family in the Valley, and the names are maddeningly interchanged in the records. Rice Mountain should no doubt properly be Royce Mountain.

For our purposes we will consider the Valley as beginning on the east line of John Bellows' (Wightman) farm, east of Hatch's Corner. These first places were part of the 400 acres John Bellows inherited from his father, to be taken in a square from east of his farm.

537. CLIFFORD F. KNIGHT: In 1805 John Bellows sold to Joseph Bellows Jr. 78 acres next east of what became the Wightman farm; 1805 to Thomas Nichols of Stoddard; 1812, and 1832 parts of the farm to son Samuel Nichols (northeast 31.5 acres, north of Valley Road, Thomas Nichols Jr. had sold 1810 to Nehemiah Royce); 1837 to Stephen Foster; 1838 to Heman Gates who lost it; 1849 to Roger Vose; 1853 to Benjamin Gates (Adeline); 1855 to John L. Tuttle (Harriet A.); 1857 to Joshua C. Quinton. Aldrich wrote that Joshua Quinton had a fulling mill here on Blanchard Brook. There was a Joshua Quinton down near



the Wellington meadows, and he was a clothier in Walpole at that time. There may have been two Joshua Quintons. In 1905 Quinton sold to his son Thomas C. Quinton; 1914 to Henry W. Porter of Rockingham; 1923 to Frank W. Kendall (Cleo); 1946 to Francis W. and Gladys L. Shulenberg; 1946 to Wm. B. and Ruth E. Powers; 1947 to Clifford F. and Marion L. Knight.

The house stands west of the Hubbard Road to Drewsville.

538. RALPH T. PODWIN: On Valley Road. In 1874 Joshua C. Quinton sold 4.5 acres here to John Redding; 1885 to John Tole; 1890 estate to Kate Tole; 1891 to Charles L. Bellows; 1905 his widow, Lora A., to Enoc Bowe; 1910 to Henry W. Porter (bought Quinton place 1914, sold both 1923); 1923 to Jeremiah and William Keefe of Rockingham; 1930 William J. Keefe (Jeremiah having died) to Truscott H. Fuller. He had three children, Cleon Arthur Fuller, Bertha E. Brown and Bessie Lee Fuller, the two former selling their shares to Bessie in 1953. Ralph Podwin has his Trading Post here and is married to Bessie Lee Fuller. This was Truscott Fuller's homestead, no buildings earlier than his ownership. This was the northwest corner of John Bellows' 400 acres.

539. WILLIAM R. MCGUIRK: Nehemiah Royce owned most of the land along the Valley Road here. Some he had bought, some his wife inherited from her father Jonathan Royce. Where the McGuirk house stands John Bellows sold 1781 to Ebenezer Pingree, millwright. He removed to Littleton, sold 1792 to Titus Olcott Brown who removed to Lancaster; 1793 to Justus Webber, "taylor"; 1795 to Thomas C. Drew. In 1810 this was referred to as the old Drew house. It is one of those old, large square houses. Nehemiah Royce's son Samuel had it after Drew. According to John Prentiss: "Samuel lived with his wife in the big house, unchanged except for repairs."

The Royce heirs sold 1898 to Willard Newton, lumberman; 1899 to Thomas Garrity, his son Charles having it after him. Charles' sister Annie F. Byrnes sold 1936 to Frank W. Whitcomb; 1939 to Guy Bates (Isabel I.) who ran it as a poultry farm; 1946 to Philip Kratky (Eveline) of South Royalton, Vt.; 1950 to Vermont Poultry Farm, Inc.; 1952 to Perley B. Lund of Westmoreland; 1959 foreclosure by bank; 1961 to William R. and Elisse McGuirk.

The barns were converted into poultry houses, now gone.

540. CARROLL C. WESTCOTT: 1943 Whitcomb sold to Carroll C. Westcott the second house lot north of the Four Corners, east of the highway.



541. HAROLD P. MORRIS: 1953 Lund sold to Albert L. and Florence Bushway the next lot south, on the northeast corner at the Four Corners; 1959 to Harold P. Morris Jr. (Ida May).

542. TWIN STATE STOCK HORSE ASSOCIATION: 1951 Whitcomb sold the southwest corner at the Four Corners (next east of Bessie Lee Fuller) to Twin State Stock Horse Association.

543. ALBERT L. BUSHWAY: 1943 the Bateses sold the southeast corner at the Four Corners to Guy E. Webster of Alstead; 1952 to his daughter Florence E. Bushway. In 1953 she created joint tenancy with husband Albert L. Bushway.

### BELLOWS MILL

The east line of John Bellows' farm was near the foot of Blanchard Falls, west of the Hubbard Road to Drewsville. It was here that the Bellows men had been to the mill when attacked by the Indians the day of the attack on the Kilburn family. No doubt this was the mill mentioned in the deeds between Bellows and Atkinson. Col. Bellows left it to his son John who sold 1792 the sawmill and millspot to Mason Abbey, wheelwright, and John Rice, husbandman, for £30; 1807 to Jonathan Royce Jr.; 1812 to Luther Denison and Samuel Nichols, mortgaged to Thomas Nichols. There is nothing more. Mrs. Weymouth remembered the millstones at the foot of the falls, and going up there for picnics. There is a road of sorts up the brook from the old Blanchard place, now R. N. Johnson.

544. JOHN J. CHENEY: In 1792 John Rice bought of John Bellows 45 acres next east of the Nichols strip, later adding more land; 1833 to George Rice; 1838 to David Buffum; 1851 to Holland B. Watkins; 1863 to Charles Towns of Rockingham, Vt.; 1864 to Daniel Pingrey (Amanda); 1865 to James Hooper; 1877 to Susan E. Nash (James P. and Andrew owned various parts); 1879 to William A. Bond; 1894 heirs to Oliver J. Hubbard; 1897 other heirs to Ira Hubbard who stocked it; Cheney worked then for him; 1910 to William W. Cheney whose son John J. now owns.

545. EARL E. FULLER: West of highway: When the Nashes owned the Cheney place, Andrew Nash had this place; 1879 to William A. Bond; 1885 to Marvin R. Booth; 1913 to Rollin A. Booth; 1919 to Earl Fuller.

546. EDMOND L. GUINARD: Nehemiah Royce and his wife Polly (daughter



of Jonathan Royce) had three sons who owned three farms here in the Valley: Samuel at #539; Nehemiah at #546 and Cyrus at #547.

Nehemiah Royce's farm was willed by his widow, Sarah, to John Redding May 28, 1894 "To my friend John Redding who has been my faithful, kind and trusted assistant and help for many years, all my estate". He sold 1902 to John W. Prentiss a part of the farm; 1903 to Thomas M. Tollerton; 1907 Redding sold the remainder of the farm to Tollerton (Johanna); 1920 to Carl D. White, to Robert B. Chase; 1924 to Felix J. and Agnes Bushway; bank took 1941; 1942 to Elsie M. Capen of Whitingham, Vt.; 1944, she had married Ivan Vose, to Mrs. Ida Webster and Walter H. Reed; 1945 to James W. and Flora B. McDermott; 1947 to Frank G. LaVanture of Rockingham, Vt.; 1949 to Earl F. and Evelyn B. Lique; 1960 to Edmond L. and Arlene F. Guinard.

547. FRANK A. CUTLER: The Cyrus Royce farm his daughter Grace S. Wellington sold 1921 to Willie M. and Mary E. Newton; 1926 to John H. and Ida M. Bashaw; 1928 to Napoleon E. and Grace N. Porter; 1942 to Frank A. and Yvonne Cutler.

The old buildings here burned after 1892 and a new house was built farther east. This was probably Jonathan Royce's home place.

In 1892 James Stewart had a cooper shop at foot of hill east of here.

The early history of this area is obscure. It is very difficult to trace parcels when they pass through the hands of owners of many parcels. According to Aldrich, Charles Howland "settled in the Valley, where he lived and died 1826". As late as 1834 his son Aaron P. Howland was listed as owning a place here. Road records indicate that it may have been #546. By 1844 Nehemiah Royce Sr. owned it, but we have been unable to find a record of the transfer.

Of Nehemiah and Cyrus Royce, John Prentiss wrote: "Nehemiah, many years a selectman, lived with his wife and had no children. They built the house which remains although reduced in size. There was a large barn which has been taken down. I bought this place at one time, cut the lumber, and sold the farm to Tom Tollerton." Aldrich says: "He (Nehemiah) came to his death from injuries received by falling down an embankment near his house a few days before he died."

"Cyrus was truly an oldtime farmer, prosperous but rather peculiar in his methods. He had for a long time a bull and a stag that he worked together as oxen and I remember as a boy that he let them run in the yoke, seldom unyoking them. While most farmers prided themselves on



having a good woodpile on hand, he was satisfied to snake up a tree with the oxen and chop off enough for a fire as needed." (*Prentiss*)

548. WARREN H. HAYES: Asa Gage's home farm was on the crossroad from the Hubbard Road to the Valley, bought 1781 from Benjamin Bellows and John Bellows 1792 and 1793. Asa Gage was a farmer and carpenter. In 1802 Gage sold to Almerin Parker; 1805 to Solomon Haskell of Littleton, Mass.; 1818 to Abel Bellows; 1834 to Thomas Nichols Jr. and George Nichols; 1846 Thomas to Samuel Cragin of Alstead; 1848 to Samuel J. Hubbard; 1851 to Abraham P. Nichols; 1865 his widow Alura sold to Isaiah Davis and moved to the village.

In 1873 Davis sold to Herbert H. Thompson who built new house, remained in the family until sold 1928 to Leonard B. Stone; 1933 to LeRoy and Zoay M. Bigelow; 1934 to Raymond J. and Lauria Deloghia and Leon and Harriet Massa of Springfield, Mass.; 1943 to William B. and Ruth E. Powers of Whitman, Mass.; 1946 to Warren H. and Joan M. Hayes.

549. FREDERICK L. BINGHAM: In 1806 Solomon Haskell, cooper, sold to Charles Howland Jr. joiner,  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre northeast of his own homestead, other side of road; 1828 Howland estate to Nehemiah Royce, to Aaron P. Howland; 1833 to Alpheus Watkins Jr. (Mary), to Lucena Watkins; 1835 to Calvin B. Mead; 1835 to George Rice (Caroline); 1838 to Samuel J. Hubbard; 1842 to Daniel McAllister; 1847 to Albert Carpenter; 1849 to Abner Palmer of Alstead; 1849 to Henry Mellish, physician; 1851 to Charles Bradlee of Dorchester, Mass.; 1861 to Ashley G. Starkweather; 1861 to John Redding; Harriet E. Caldwell unmarried, Charles E. Beckwith unmarried, Lizzie Stuart and Mary J. Whitney, heirs of John Redding sold 1916 to Emma Thompson Boynton (Frank); 1945 to Paul Cote, to William B. and Ruth E. Powers; 1945 to Calvin S. and Dorothy N. Powers; 1947 to Frederick L. and Althea W. Bingham.

550. HAROLD BALL: The core of this place at the mouth of the crossroad, on the Valley Road, was originally part of a 50 acre lot which John Bellows sold 1777 to John Denison; 1781 to Joseph Griswold, millwright; 1791 this west part of the lot to his son Ethan. Possibly Ethan resided at the Ball house; 1796 to his brother Elisha Griswold who had the next place east; 1804 to Amasa Allen who did not reside here; 1806 to Oliver Goodale; 1807 to Almerin Parker; 1836 to Joseph S. and Charles Jones from east of Drewsville; 1838 to William Dunshee; 1897 Sarah Dunshee



to Timothy O'Brien; 1930 to Wallace Marlow; 1961 Francis Marlow to Harold F. and Faith E. Ball.

John W. Prentiss wrote of the Dunshees here: "As long ago as I can remember Carlos Dunshee lived here with his wife Sarah, a daughter of Gardner Dodge. They had no children. This is a good farm and Mr. Dunshee took much pride in keeping everything in good shape. In addition to carrying on the farm he had a shop where he did wheelwright work and doing all kinds of repair work including plumbing. In fact, he was an all around repair man and ready for any emergency for a large section of the town. If anyone suffered any kind of breakdown, be it a farming tool, a leak in a water pipe, broken harness or whatever, take it to Carl Dunshee and he would repair it with neatness and dispatch. For all of these jobs the price was reasonable, even by the standards of those times. But this is not all. He was skilled in all ailments of livestock, and was sure to be called if any neighbor had trouble due to accident or sickness of a farm animal. Mr. Dunshee was ever ready to lend a hand in caring for the sick, day or night, and always seemed glad to help anyone in any way possible. This fact is remarkable—he was always willing to lend any tool to a neighbor. I consider him the most remarkable person that I have ever met. The buildings on the Dunshee place have not changed."

551. HARRY A. ROGERS: Next east is the old Bela Frink place in the point between the Valley Road and the road north to Drewsville (Cheshire Turnpike), the house on the Valley Road. This came out of the north part of the 50 acres which John Bellows sold 1778 to Darius Houghton; 1781 to Joseph Griswold. In 1784 and 1787 Griswold sold the north part of the lot, except a strip along the west side, to Ebenezer Farnam, blacksmith. Probably Farnam had his house where the Robie house is now falling down, perhaps a shop nearby; 1799 to Stephen Griswold (Elizabeth); 1805 to Aaron Graves Jr. who also owned the next lot east. The land in the point Graves sold 1810 to Cady Parks; 1815 to Bela Frink. In 1808 Frink had bought from Amasa Allen the narrow strip remaining on the west side of the lot north of the Valley Road, and had a blacksmith shop here. 1851 to Russell Copeland; 1890 John W. and Mary A. Britton of Surry to Sarah A. Hill; 1903 to Frank H. Copeland; 1915 Celia M. Copeland, his widow, to John W. Prentiss; 1921 to W. Roscoe Long; 1930 to Freeman Christian; 1949 estate to John L. Walker; 1949 to Charles E. and Celestine Hewitt; 1951 to Harry A. and Lillian M. Rogers.

It may be noted that the property was in the Frink-Copeland family for 107 years. Sarah Frink Copeland Hill was the daughter of Bela Frink and her children were Sarah E. Vittum, Mary A. Britton and Frank H. Copeland. Prentiss wrote: "Sarah Copeland, the wife (of Russell) was a useful member of the community, a good neighbor, and a practical midwife, important at this period as all of the babies were born at home. Hospitals in the country towns were few and far between."



552. CARLTON NELSON: Northeast of the road at the mouth of the road from Drewsville is the old crumbling house of Lena Robie (widow of Steve). This was part of what Ebenezer Farnum had (1818 he resided Waterford, Vt.) and Aaron Graves Jr. from him. The next 50 acre lot east John Bellows sold 1780 to Hezekiah Clark, joiner; 1783 to Aaron Allen; 1784 to Aaron Graves Jr. After his death 1816 Aaron's property was broken up. This part went in 1817 to Ira White, whose parents, Elisha and Deborah, resided here, he at least until 1828. Apparently Ira went to Cincinnati. In 1828 George Carlisle obtained a judgment against him and in 1830 Thomas Drew, the two taking the property which they sold 1835 to Henry Mellish; 1879 his widow Sarah and son Charles had the place; 1886 to Willis H. and George L. Griswold of Rockingham, Vt.; 1886 to George W. Fisher; 1888 to his widow Hattie M.; 1893 to Charles W. Cross; 1906 to Jarvis H. Hinds; 1920 to Stephen Robie; 1961 Lena Robie to Carlton and Margaret Nelson.

"Henry Mellish was a man who possessed more than ordinary intellectual powers and was a natural mechanic, which is proved by the number of inventions and patents obtained for them. He represented the town in the General Court in 1856-57 and was at one time a practicing physician in town. Among his inventions was a machine for turning pill boxes with a cover. This was patented and sold to the Bond Brothers who made them for many years on the river just below the old sawmill at Drewsville, and sold the entire product to Dr. David Jayne whose pills had a nationwide reputation. Dr. Mellish built a dam on the brook on his land, and this furnished water power for the machinery in his shop. He also invented a lathe for making axe helves which were of importance at this period. Previous to this all axe handles were shaved by hand. I think the idea of the Yankee horse rake originated with Dr. Mellish and was sold to Dr. Lufkin of Alstead who made them later. As the *Aldrich History* says, he took up horticulture, cultivating strawberries, the first grown in this vicinity, and raising at the same time grapes, peaches, apples, cherries and plums. Looking at this farm which is a wilderness, it seems hard to believe that it was a model fruit farm, very productive and the first in town." Here in 1840 Mellish had eight rows of mulberry trees planted across his cornfield, and  $\frac{1}{3}$  of six other rows. "Dr. Henry Mellish . . . studied, got a medical diploma after he reached middle age, and for years was a practicing physician in good standing." (*Prentiss*)

553. GEORGE E. PARKINSON: Out of the Aaron Graves Jr. estate Joseph Bond (Sarah) bought 1817 what is now the George Parkinson place (#553) south of the highway and west of the old road over Jennison Hill. There were at least barns standing thereon. In 1801 Aaron Graves' house was 16 rods south of the road. In 1820 Bond sold to Reuben Dodge; 1848 to his daughter Mehitabel (wife of Joshua Quinton), except for the schoolhouse lot east of the Jennison Hill Road; 1890 to her son Horace; 1913 to Celia M. Copeland who married Jenkins and resided Thetford,



Vt.; 1915 to Stephen Robie, then to his wife Lena 1943; 1944 to Henry H. Reed of Keene; 1946 to Harley W. Prentiss; 1946 to Francis M. Marlow; 1961 to George E. and Joyce W. Parkinson.

Prentiss thinks the Quintons built this house. There were said to be oldtime scenes painted on the living room walls. Son Joshua Collins lived over on the Hubbard Road, while Horace lived, unmarried, at home with his mother. She lived to be over 90, at 80 was making 75 lbs. of butter a week.

554. ROGER B. SANTAW: The schoolhouse lot is in the point south of the Valley Road and east of the road to Jennison (Ramsay) Hill. In 1885 it was owned by Charles Dodge; 1887 to Henry Dodge; 1908 his estate to Timothy and Daniel O'Brien; 1942 Timothy's estate to George O'Brien; 1946 George, single, Oakland, California, sold to Edward J. Rock; 1947 to Earl S. Long; 1961 to Roger B. and Betta A. Santaw.

Probably the first schoolhouse in the Valley stood on this lot.

555. AARON GRAVES JR. CELLARHOLE: Under the power line, east of the hill road, there is a cellarhole, probably the site of Aaron Graves' house in 1796 when a road was laid from here easterly to the Alstead line (Cheney Hill Road). This Jennison (Ramsay) Hill Road was a part of, or a variation of, a 1781 road from the north line of John Still's land (#453), past Darius Houghton's to the Bellows mill on Cold River near Whitcomb's gravel pit. The road from the junction north of #453 to the Valley Road was discontinued 1947.

556. CHARLES MILLER: In 1948 Lena Robie sold to Donald and Helen Wood a house lot north of the Valley Road east of the old house on the corner of the road to Drewsville and he built a house; 1953 to Charles and Rita I. Miller of Rockingham.

557. FELIX DAMAZIAK—DODGE TAVERN: In 1781 Joseph Griswold, millwright, bought 50 acres from John Bellows, including the site of the later Dodge Tavern. In 1784 he sold part of it to his son Gilbert, the rest in 1791. Gilbert added to the property, in 1801 building a new house which he ran as an inn or tavern. This building burned, was replaced. He and his family lived here and after his death the property was divided among his heirs. They lost it piece by piece to the Dodge family, primarily to Reuben. Dodge estate sold to Timothy and Daniel C. O'Brien; 1922 to Jacob Damaziak, now Felix Damaziak. This was the center of the community, where notices were posted.





## *Old Dodge Tavern*

Prentiss wrote: "The Dodge Tavern is an old landmark. It was, in the olden time, a stopping place for the teams from as far north as Canada hauling goods to and from Boston. Gardner Dodge was well along in years when I was born. The railroad had come and the days of the teams were over, but some evidence of the old days remained. The old bar was intact and the barns where the horses were stabled, and a secret cellar under the floor of the grain room I have seen. . . . This was said to be used as a hiding place for smuggled goods from Canada. Gardner was lame, one leg being shorter. To overcome this he always wore a shoe with a three or four inch sole and walked with a limp using one crutch." Mrs. Edith Tiffany said silk smugglers came this way to avoid the village, put up at the Tavern where a team could be driven into the barn and completely concealed.



558. CALVIN GRISWOLD CELLARHOLE—PRENTISS OR SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD: The north part of this road was laid 1801 from Dodge Tavern into the old 1785 County Road which formed that part of the road south to the Three Corners. North of the old county road and west of the 1801 road was the old Griswold house, probably Gilbert Griswold's before he built his new house (Dodge Tavern) on the then new Cheshire Turnpike. His son Calvin had it after him and raised his family here, followed by his son Charles. In 1889 his heirs sold land and buildings for \$325 to George Parkinson; 1920 Grace W. Parkinson to Walter W. Parkinson; 1933 to Tony Jermacz (James).

In 1942 John W. Prentiss wrote thus of the place: "Only a cellar hole remains. . . . There was a good house and barn connected by a shed, probably seventy-five feet long. This place was nearest to our place and as time went on had many different occupants, but the Wightmans lived here during my boyhood days. Mrs. Harriet Wightman, mother of Carrie, George and Walter, . . . was an expert horsewoman, inheriting this from her father who was a horse breeder and trainer. He raised and kept for many years a Morgan stallion, a true bred Morgan. They named him Justin after the original Morgan. . . . Mrs. Wightman always owned and drove a fine Morgan."

559. CATHERINE PARKINSON: South of the Griswold property and east of the Jennison Hill Road was the lot Aaron Stearns bought of Col. Bellows; receiving his deed from Gen. Bellows 1779. His son Jesse was here with him in his later years. Their buildings were probably northeast corner of the lot, east of the county road. In 1800 Aaron and Jesse sold to Abner Royce; 1809 to Jonathan Royce. Abner had resided here, Elisha Royce in 1809. In 1812 Jonathan sold to Samuel Moulton the six acres where the buildings were. Apparently Moulton died and his widow Deborah married Horace Holmes, removed to Rutland, Vt.; 1824 to Ethan Griswold; 1831 to John W. Prentiss who bought up more land, 1860 built a new house on the site of the old, the present house, east of road. In 1906 the Prentiss family sold to John W. Good; 1909 to Elizabeth MacNutt; 1919 to Alice G. Westcott; 1931 her estate to Henry H. Thompson; 1943 to Roxanna E. Thompson; 1954 to Walter W. and Catherine M. Parkinson.

560. ALBERT LACLAIR: In 1956 Catherine M. Parkinson, out of the old Parkinson farm, sold to Felix C. and Roxanna E. Damaziak a house lot west of the road. They built a house and sold 1958 to Albert and Clara LaClair.

South of the LaClair house, west of the road, there is a cellarhole. This land belonged first to Aaron Stearns; in 1794 he sold to his son Jesse one-



half of his place, excepting his buildings. It is possible that Jesse built a house here—perhaps he was married 1794. By 1806 six of his children were baptized. Road records indicate that he may have still been here as late as 1808, although they sold the property to Abner Royce in 1800. There is no record of his ownership of any other property, although he probably lived in Walpole all his life. In 1834 he was occupying a Nichols farm. He was remembered as a lame shoemaker. In 1850 he and his wife were listed as inmates at the Town Farm.

If there was a house here, it may also have been where Jonathan Buxton lived. His wife died Aug. 13, 1810 (34) and he died Mar. 21, 1813 (41) of malignant fever. In 1814 a Buxton child was bid off to Abner Royce for 44 cents per week. There are no deeds to Buxton. Whatever there was here was no doubt gone before 1850. Marvin Royce's heirs sold this land to Prentiss in 1843.

The schoolhouse lot came out of this property, a small piece west of the road, in 1841, replacing the earlier school down at the intersection of the old county road and the early crossroad (Cheney Hill). In his later years Lewis Whitney bought this old school house 1901, lived here; sold 1922 to Nellie Ada and Earle Westcott; 1930 to Fred Mann. He died 1932; 1938 his brother Eugene gave a quit claim deed to their brother Carl E.'s widow Phoebe Landon Horton Mann. She married later a Tego. The place is said to have burned while the Hortons lived here.

John W. Prentiss describes that school as follows: "I started school in the old red school house, District Number Three. It was located about forty rods south from our house on a rough plot of ground surrounded on three sides by a stone wall, still standing (1942). The building, I should say, was about thirty by twenty feet. Inside the main building was the school room. As for the ell, the door from the yard opened into a room used to take off the hats and coats of the pupils with a door which opened into the schoolroom. The balance of the ell was occupied by a woodshed and connected with the cloak room by a narrow passage was the toilet, built upon the up-to-date plan of the time. Entering the schoolroom a level floor about twelve feet wide ran the length of the building with two windows near each end, the space between occupied by a blackboard which was simply that—no embellishments. The stove, a big cast iron heater, stood directly in front of the entrance about six feet from the door. It would take in a three foot stick of wood and a log a foot through. The teacher's bench with a built-in board seat was at the far corner from the door. The benches about three and a half feet long had a shelf for the books, pencils, etc., and a pine board seat for two pupils. The first row was on a level with the floor and each row about eight inches higher, in all four rows of desks. There were aisles between the desks leading out to the back row which was occupied by older pupils, many of whom were full grown, particularly in the winter term when they were not needed to help on the farm. There were two windows on the sides and four on the back side and two in front. These served as ventilators as well as for light."



## CHENEY HILL ROAD

561. **FELIX DAMAZIAK:** Azariah Dickinson was here, first place north of Dodge Tavern, as early as 1793, brought together various parcels of land, some from Thomas Bellows. He sold 1836 to Ephraim Prentiss; 1847 to Theron Prentiss; 1849 to John W. Prentiss; 1858, 1864 to Daniel O'Brien; 1936 to Timothy O'Brien, to Felix Damaziak.

Daniel O'Brien farmed here, ran a meat market and milk wagon in Bellows Falls.

562. **CELLARHOLE:** Next east of the Azariah Dickinson farm was the Theodore Bellows tract on the east line of the town, south from the Atkinson south line, sold to him 1783 by his brother Thomas. In 1785 he sold to Daniel Denison Jr. 53 acres, strip 50 rods wide along the west side of the lot. This includes two cellarholes, one north and one south of the road; 1790 to Daniel Messer, carpenter; 1792 to Gilbert Griswold; 1797 to Gideon Allen; 1801 to Elijah Waldo; 1802 to Oliver Goodell; 1806 to Josiah Bellows; 1807 part north side of road to Azariah Dickinson. He probably rented to Moses W. Alden who was occupying it 1834. Ownership continued with the Dickinson place, buildings gone before 1858.

563. **STEELE CELLARHOLE:** The land south of the road Josiah Bellows sold 1807 to Silas Angier Jr.; 1807 to Lois Steele, widow; 1822 her estate to Samuel Steele of Springfield; 1823 to Samuel Jr.; 1833 to Sampson Tuttle. Whatever house there had been was gone before 1834 or by 1834—perhaps that was why the Steeles sold. It then became a part of the Tuttle farm and was known only as the Steele lot.

564. **CHENEY CELLARHOLE:** At the top of the hill on the road easterly from Dodge Tavern is the cellarhole of the old John Cheney house, north of road. There are numerous walls denoting barns, outbuildings, and barnyard. Here in 1798 John Cheney bought from Jonathan Royce, out of the Theodore Bellows' tract, 105 acres extending from Gideon Allen's land on the west to Pearl Parker's on the east. No doubt the hill took its name from him. It is a steep, ledgy hill, leveling off at the Cheney building site and dropping away gently to the east. Cheney's name does not appear in any vital statistics, so nothing is known of the family. He removed to Concord, Vt. after selling the farm in 1806 to Benjamin Angier (Eunice), then of Alstead. They seem to have lived here; sold 1813 to David Corliss (Louisa) of Alstead; 1822 to John Barker (Rachel); 1829 to Asa Wentworth Jr.; 1832 to Azariah Dickinson; 1834 to Danae Dodge



of Alstead; 1834 to Stephen Johnson. The farm was broken up and buildings gone before 1858.

565. DEACON PEARL PARKER CELLARHOLE: Next east, on the Alstead line, was the farm of Deacon Pearl Parker, the cellarhole north of the road, just over the line in Alstead. In 1786 Pearl Parker, who already owned land on the Alstead side of the line, bought of Theodore Bellows 50 acres next west. In 1817 he sold his farm to Silas Corliss (Sally) of Glover, Vt., recorded as follows:

. . . "the condition of above obligation is such that whereas above named Pearl Parker hath given me a deed of all his real estate of which he is now in possession in Walpole and Alstead on condition I deliver to him during his natural life yearly and to Lydia his wife if she survives him: 12(?) of good pork well fattened; 200 wgt. of good beef; 6 bu. good wheat; 12 bu. Indian corn; 8 bu. good rye; 20 bu. potatoes; 1 bu. white beans; 3 bu. turnips; with all necessary garden sauce usually raised on common farms; also 8 barrels good cider; 2 gallons of West India; 3 gallons N. E. rum; above articles to be provided in proper season usually laid up among farmers; also 8 lbs. good tobacco; 3 lbs. snuff; 6 lbs. tea; 10 lbs. brown sugar; 3 gallons molasses; and to keep for him 2 cows and their calves till they are 2 years old; 6 sheep; 1 horse summer and winter; 2 bu. good salt and privilege of making use of as many apples as he and his wife shall chuse or wish to eat, dry, lay up for winter, make apple sauce, etc., at their pleasure; also grant full use of west room in dwelling house, with privilege of kitchen, chamber and cellar; also grant Nancy, daughter of said Pearl, to make her home in house during her minority or till married and at 21 or when married give her \$100; also agree to find wood sufficient for one fire summer and winter being cut and brought into house. If Lydia survives 1/2 of the above to be provided but to have house, firewood, etc. in full; also Parker to have west half of garden; also provide expenses if sick; also allow them liberty to put up a friend's horse who may call; also give yearly \$6.00 for expense money; also keep for their use one horse wagon or sleigh."

In 1822 Silas sold to David Corlis. By 1824 Pearl had died, his widow Lydia still had her dower right. Samuel Hartwell of Langdon took over the farm on a mortgage, sold 1837 to George V. R. Watts; 1844 to Thuly Freeman of Newburyport, Mass., Lamson Beckwith occupying; 1857 to Wm. Ahern of Rockingham, Davis occupying; 1868 to Charles E. Porter of Alstead; 1870 to Wm. A. and Chas. A. Bond; 1896 Bond heirs to Thomas Garrity (buildings must have been gone by then); Annie F. Byrnes inherited; estate 1956 to Page Riley. This place was a landmark in Walpole road descriptions.

In *The Spirit of the Farmers' Museum* (1801) there is an account of a hermit, James Hazelton, who was said to have lived near the Alstead line in a "dwelling dug from the mountain and covered with the bark of the spruce tree," having lived there for twenty years alone with his spaniel and cat. No records indicate where he



may have lived, or what his family connections. He was said to have retired from society at the age of 40, probably born about 1735.

## VALLEY ROAD

566. GEORGE VELNOR LONG: In 1802 Roger Fenton bought from John Bellows 107 acres here, increased to 170 acres. In 1808 Joseph Bellows and Thomas Bellows Jr., merchants, took a 15-year lease for setting up a potash on this farm, the rent to be all the leached ashes or \$5 yearly. In 1825 Fenton sold to Joseph Field (Lydia); 1827 to Henry Hubbard of Charlestown, to Reuben Dodge and Josiah Simonds; Gardner Dodge inherited from his father Reuben, and he left it to his three younger sons, Frank, Henry and Charles. The southerly part Frank had, except what had already been sold to William Rollins, and lived here. In 1916 he made over conditionally to George Velnor Long for providing necessary support as long as Frank should live; 1934 gave quit claim deed. The house is old.

## ROLLINS FARM

In 1831 Reuben Dodge sold to his son-in-law William Rollins the south part of the Fenton farm, most of it east of the road, but a little point on the west side where Rollins lived. He added more to the farm.

In 1879 Rollins sold to James P. Nash with the provision that he "see him through"; 1885 to George W. Jenna of Northfield, Vt., with the provision that Jenna would care for Nash's son Arthur born Sept. 26, 1881; in 1886 to Oliver Martin; 1887 to Daniel O'Brien; 1924 to Stephen J. and Alice Westcott; 1931 estate to Powers Realty Trust; 1941 Vt. Savings Bank of Brattleboro to Henry P. and Molly A. Narkiewicz; 1941 to George L. and Stella I. Walker and Stanley Tomasheski; 1943 to Clayton A. and Marguerite C. Hawksley of Langdon; 1947 to Henri M. and Beatrix H. Anger; 1947 to Leslie J. and Rose Swain; 1950 Leslie to Rose the south side of the road. He died 1950. There are now the following houses out of this property, south of highway, from northwest to southeast:

567. IRA H. DAY JR.: In 1957 the Swains sold to Ira H. Jr. and Genevieve J. Day, land and buildings.

568. ROSE SWAIN: Mrs. Swain has a house next east. The old Rollins house which stood in front of the present house, closer to the highway, burned in 1948.



568A. TOWN OF WALPOLE: In 1950 the Swains sold to Marion Critchfield; 1954 to Edward J. and Gladys E. St. Cyr; 1958 to Town of Walpole.

569. ELMER L. HICKS: In back of her own house Mrs. Swain sold in 1956 to Elmer L. and Dorothy Hicks.

570. BENNIE A. CARTER: In 1953 Mrs. Swain sold to Charles L. and Marion L. Critchfield; 1957 to Bennie A. and Rita F. Carter, land and buildings—long red house.

571. JOHN L. SWAIN: In 1952 to Floyd and Rose M. Critchfield; 1957 land and buildings to Robert F. and Joyce E. Adams; 1961 to John L. Swain.

572. LAWRENCE W. GRAVES: In 1950 the Swains sold 40 acres east of the road to Francis Robert Schulenberger; through various transactions it came to G. Velnor Long who in 1954 sold a small part with land and buildings to Harold F. and Faith E. Ball; 1954 to George E. and Joyce W. Parkinson; 1959 to Lawrence W. and Carola M. Graves.

573. HAROLD F. BALL: Next east was the Tony James' Sampson Tuttle farm. This was from land which James Smith (Patty) brought together piece by piece to a total of 30 acres. He first bought the land northeast of the Turnpike in 1808 from Silas Angier Jr., probably erecting his buildings here. In 1819 he sold to Josiah Bellows; 1824 to Jacob Tuttle; 1830 estate to Sampson Tuttle of Alstead; 1871 heirs to Lewis V. and Susan A. Clough of Reading, Vt.; 1876 to Levi K. Wetherbee of Reading; 1884 to Charles A. Jennings; 1886 to Emma and J. Stratton Walker of Langdon (Jennings assaulted Walker who died as a result); 1887-8 to Charles Parkinson. There were various Parkinson deeds within the family; 1933 Walter W. Parkinson sold to Tony Jermacz (James); 1953 to Harold F. and Faith E. Ball.

574. STEPHEN L. AND MADELINE K. JAMES: In 1952 Tony and Martha James deeded to Stephen L. and Madeline K. James, brother and sister, a small piece out of the Tony James place. This is a tiny green and white house south of the homestead. They live here with their mother, Frances Kilburn James.

575. JOHN R. HURD: In 1958 the Balls deeded to Robert J. and Anna M. Kenney a small lot with buildings west of the highway; 1961 to John R. and Shirley M. Hurd. Richard Swain built this about 1950.



576. ROYCE CELLARHOLE: In 1772 Benjamin Bellows deeded to Class Sumner 50 acres across which ran the very early road to Alstead from Walpole Village. In 1777 he deeded it to Daniel Allen Jr. of Ashford, Conn.; 1778 to Isaac Johnson; 1778 to Isaac Johnson Jr.; 1779 to Jonathan Knights of Lancaster, Massachusetts Bay, for £1300; 1784 to Joseph Brown for £100; 1787 to Thomas Johnson of Alstead; 1789 to Moses Emery, bucketmaker, of Haverhill, Mass., later of Dover, N. H.; 1791 to Jonathan Royce; 1815 to his son Marvin. This has gone through a great many divisions and rearrangements. The Royce home was on this lot, on the old road to Alstead, a short distance from the present highway near the Wood place, north of the road, the cellarhole north of the old road, all grown up to woods now. It now belongs to Oliver Hubbard.

576. HERBERT J. WOOD: This place, also out of the Marvin Royce property, came through Samuel Nichols and is known as Royce pasture. In 1942 Katie M. Prentiss sold to Herbert O. and Ruby F. Wood 21 acres; 1957 to Herbert J. and Beverly A. Wood a part of the tract. Woods built a house about 1951.

577. HAROLD S. SILVER: Out of the Royce land that had been bought by Henry Watkins, whose heirs sold to Willis Foster, a piece was sold by Foster in 1924 to Andrew J. Heath; 1938 to Frank W. Leete; 1944 to Raymond and Tressa M. Phillips; 1958 to Harold S. Silver who built the building on the bank. This is west of the road south of the Wood place.

578. JOHN CROSS CELLARHOLES: Also out of the Royce land was the 60 acre Cross farm on the Alstead line. In 1796 a road was extended from the Maple Grove Road northeasterly to the Alstead line here, then discontinued 1834. There are three cellarholes along this road up near the town line, all seemingly on the Cross farm. In 1786 Jonathan Royce bought this 60 acres from Theodore Bellows and in 1815 gave it "for love and affection I bear to my daughter Phebe, wife of John Cross". Probably they had already settled here even as early as 1801. In 1822 they sold for \$500 to John Cross Jr. (Eunice Beckwith of Acworth); 1831 he, then of Burke, Vt., to Ruggles Watkins; 1842 the other heirs to Henry J. Watkins "the Cross place"; 1897 his heirs "the Cross pasture" to Daniel O'Brien; 1946 heirs to Edward J. Rock.

579. HENRY WHITNEY CELLARHOLE: In 1830 Nehemiah Royce (Polly, daughter of Jonathan Royce) sold this farm to Henry Whitney, 70 acres. Henry and Sally Whitney's son Lewis F. had it after them. Prentiss wrote: "This was a very rough, stony farm which now would be considered only



fit as a pasture, yet the Whitneys lived here and prospered. A son, Lewis F., lived there alone for many years after his parents died. He built a large barn, had also a slaughter house, and for many years did the butchering for that end of the town." His barn burned Dec. 4, 1906, and the buildings fell down. In 1921 he was living with Chauncey Knowlton, died April 19, 1926 (89) at the County Home. George E. Edwards owns the place now.

580. GERALD H. FRENETTE SR.—TOWN FARM: Elijah Burroughs bought 1784 and 1791 from Theodore Bellows and from Col. Bellows estate; sold 1814 to Levi Saddler of Grafton, Mass.; 1816 to James Aiken (Eurelia P.); 1822 to David Carpenter of Keene; 1835 to William W. Graves (Margaret); 1844 to Town of Walpole for Town Farm; 1867 to John H. Moriarty; 1883 heirs to John W. Prentiss; 1917 to Alexander Marlow; 1930 to William F. Frick of Bloomfield, N. J. (Gertrude M.); 1933 to Ernest A. and Emma M. Reed; 1942 Cheshire County Farmers' Cooperative Exchange sold to Herman L. Sargent; 1944 to George E. and Hildred V. Edwards; 1946 to Harry G. and Florence Mae Clark; 1957 to Lawrence W. and Carola M. Graves; 1959 to George E. and Joyce W. Parkinson; 1962 to Gerald H. Sr. and Bertha A. Frenette.

House burned Dec. 1893, rebuilt 1894.

Prentiss wrote: "The first house (from Alstead town line) had long been used as the town's 'Poor House.' Here the selectmen, as 'overseers of the poor,' boarded indigent people, grownups and children, who lacked means of support. The place was kept by a Mr. Jenkins who had charge of it for many years, being hired by the town. About 1870 (1867) the poor farm was done away with by vote of the town and the farm was sold to John Moriarty, a sturdy and capable Irishman. They came from the house which they had built on the site just south of the little cemetery, opposite the Jesse Grout buildings. The Moriartys were smart, thrifty and had four children, Weston, Frank, Nora and Nancy."

## EARLY COUNTY ROAD SOUTH OF VALLEY ROAD

581. WARREN CELLARHOLE: In 1789 Cornelius Warren was given a deed from Col. Bellows for the farm where he was living as early as 1782, the 53 acre lot next north of the Webber lot in the hill ranges, between the early county road and the Cheshire Turnpike. In the 1797 inventory Warren had 2.5 acres plowland, 10 acres mowing, 16 acres pasture, 14 acres wild land, 1.5 acres orchard. The old orchard was in the northwest corner of that part that became the John Royce farm, near the Turnpike (still some old apple trees here). In 1814 his heirs sold the west 18 acres to Jonathan Royce Jr., he to Jonathan Royce. The east 30 acres also went



to Jonathan Royce Jr.; 1822 to John Royce. The buildings must have been on this part of the farm, probably near the west end. This continued as a farm for some years, was finally mortgaged 1839 to Hope Lathrop; he took it, sold 1874 to Oliver J. Hubbard; now belongs to Leslie Hubbard. Buildings were gone before 1858, all grown up now.

582. ISAIAH EATON CELLARHOLE: The Warren farm was northeast of the early county road. On the southwest side was the lot which Col. Christopher Webber bought from Col. Bellows, recorded 1782, 50 acres; 1786 to Moses Hazelton (Haseltine). He died April 19, 1787 (about 33). He had a son David baptized Jan. 22, 1786. His heirs, Sarah and Jesse Smith of Pelham sold the place 1797. It is possible that Sarah was his widow and had remarried. They sold to Isaiah Eaton. There seem to have been three Eatons in this section. Timothy may have been the father, Isaiah his son. Timothy sometime before 1787 acquired a third and fourth strips south of the Warren lot; he died sometime between 1792 and 1796; Isaiah later had the property. Eliphalet Eaton, son of Ebenezer, had the Moses Fisher place 1793-7 and later the lot next south of Timothy's. Eaton Hill here took its name from this family. Maj. Isaiah Eaton is said to have been a silversmith 1789-99, also made at least one clock.

In 1815 Eaton sold the farm to James Johnson and seems to have removed to Westminster, but he subsequently took back the farm. He had a potash near the brook at the west end of his property on the road. He seems to have rented the farm, for John Prentiss says his grandfather moved here from Alstead in 1819. Elijah H. Prouty bought of Eaton heirs. Lewis Adams lived here 1852. He sold 1855 to George Huntington; 1863 to John Ryan. They were here as early as 1860, probably renting before they bought. He died before 1867, widow Ellen sold 1867 to William Hall. From him it descended to Charles Seward and it is known as the Seward pasture. He sold 1919 to Fred O. Smalley; 1936 to Michael J. and Bessie Butterfield; 1945 to Herbert O. Wood. The buildings stood south of the old county road toward the west end of the lot. The house faced north, long side to the road, with the front door in the center (stone still here), lilacs on the west end, barn down the hill on the west. There is no record of how long the buildings stood after the Ryans left here. Road discontinued 1894.

There was probably also a set of buildings on Eaton Hill belonging to the Timothy Eaton farm.

In 1781 there was a road from John Still's north line (#453) by Nathaniel Messer's to Alstead line, and the Maple Grove Road was



supposed to have come into this road at the east end of the Seward pasture. In the records the survey for this road is the same as that given for the road from the same place to the mills, apparently a mistake in copying.

Along the north side of the Manning (#453) field are double stone walls extending eastward, but they soon peter out, leaving one to guess the course of the road and where Nathaniel Messer's house was between there and the Maple Grove Road.

583. JOSHUA EMERY CELLARHOLE: North of the old county road, to the west of the Warren and Eaton places, one may find the cellarhole of the old Joshua Emery farm. He had his 50 acre lot from the Bellows estate by contract 1781, added somewhat to it. Joshua and wife Ruth were living here 1830. By 1834 he had died and his heirs left Walpole. The farm was divided and sold to adjoining landowners.

#### WHITNEY ROAD NORTH FROM VALLEY TO DREWSVILLE

This was first laid as a county road 1785. According to a survey and several references, the first road turned north from the present Cutler (#547) place instead of by the Robie place as at present. The plan was modified after the survey was made to shorten the route, so it is not clear whether the road was ever built as surveyed and recorded, probably not. This was later the Cheshire Turnpike, an important stage route from Cheshire Bridge in Charlestown to Keene. In the 1840's after much haggling, it was made into a county road.

584. CHARLES L. CRITCHFIELD: East of the highway in the dip near the brook, south side, Lena (Mary) Robie sold an acre in 1959 to Albert H. and Lena M. Fletcher, they to Edwin O. and Claire L. Pratt; 1961 to Vincent J. and Annie L. Walsh; 1961 to Charles L. and Marion A. Critchfield.

585. LEON C. BRYANT: On the hill west of the road and north of the brook is the Bryant place. In 1797 Thomas Bellows sold here 58 acres to Levi Fairbanks, formerly bargained to Jabez Warren; 1803 to William Wyman (Prudence). The place was broken up after Wyman's death. In 1824, 38 acres sold here to Jonathan Royce; 1851 Cyrus Royce to Willard Shaw (Maria); 1854 to Andrew J. Fisher; 1870 to Edward E. Smith; 1873 to Oliver Martin, to Benjamin F. Dwinnell (Lucy); 1883 to Oliver Martin, to Mary J. Redding Whitney (James); son Charles had after them; since 1946 Leon C. and Ellen Whitney Bryant, daughter of Charles.



586. CHARLES WELCH: In 1808 William Wyman bought the 59 acre lot next south of the Atkinson line from Thomas Bellows. Probably the Wyman house was what was later the Chandler house, near where the new Remick house now stands. After William's death the estate was broken up, Daniel Turner bought the part west of the turnpike, land and buildings; 1826 quit to Robert Clark; 1827 to Thomas Nichols Jr. (Prudence); 1835 to Joseph Cobb; 1872 other heirs to Samuel D. Cobb; 1898 to Leslie H. Chandler of Alstead (Edna M.); 1940 daughter Vivian E. Whitney sold her share to brother Hollis G. Chandler; 1957 to Charles and Elizabeth H. Welch. They built a new house west of the road near the northern end of the property, poultry plant east of road.

This was a lively place while the Chandlers owned. Hazel Buswell told of going to many dances here. April 1900 forty friends gathered with lunch baskets, fiddles and other preparations for a good time, the evening and much of the night spent in a joyful manner. The house was struck by lightning and burned July 26, 1906.

587. HARRY H. REMICK: Before Chandler sold to Welches, he had sold 1955 out of the south part of the tract west of the road a house lot to Calvin S. and Dorothy E. Powers; 1955 to Harley W. and Dorothy W. Prentiss; 1957 to Harry H. and Shirley E. Remick who built the house.

The William Wyman house probably stood near the new Remick house.

588. VERNER FULLER: East of the highway, out of the old Wyman land, Robert S. Ball sold 1961 to Joseph S. Christian (Odessa D.) a house lot near the south line. Had a trailer here.

In 1950 Ball sold to Verner and Nellie M. Fuller a house lot farther north and they moved a house to this site.

## NORTH OF COLD RIVER—WEST

589. FRANK W. WHITCOMB CONSTRUCTION COMPANY: Samuel Wightman remained at the old Bellows Tavern on his farm only a few years. When in 1816 he turned over to his son Israel that part of the farm south of Cold River and east of the Third N. H. Turnpike, he kept for himself the part west of the Turnpike and north of Cold River up onto the side of Fall Mountain to the south line of the Atkinson strip. He had built a new tavern on the north side of the river, now belonging to Whitcomb Construction Corporation. Here he spent the rest of his life. The following is a specimen of the many anecdotes related of the doings here during his lifetime.





## Old Wightman Tavern

"During the time deacon Wightman was keeping the Carpenter tavern, at the foot of the mountain, several lumbermen were boarding at his house. After supper, one night, one of the party told the deacon that he had found a partridge's nest that day with sixteen fresh eggs in it, and had brought them down; and if he would find rum and sugar the company should be regaled with egg-nogg, to which proposition the deacon not reluctantly assented. In the mean time one of the party went to his barn and purloined hen's eggs sufficient for the occasion. The party contrived to break the eggs unseen by the deacon. When the nogg was duly prepared, foaming in the mug, the deacon was presented with it first, in deference to age. He was not loth to accept the proffered courtesy, and grasped the mug and began to sip and taste, sip and taste, till the company began to think that he was imbibing the lion's share, when he placed the mug upon the counter, at the same time 'smacking' his lips. One of the party then asked him how he liked partridge-nogg when he replied, 'Amazing good! Amazing good! but I think it tastes a l-e-e-tle of the wild!'" (*Aldrich* p. 387)

Samuel's daughter Lydia had married Zachariah Carpenter and they came to Walpole to spend their days caring for her aged parents. They had the tavern after her father's death. In turn, their daughter Caroline married Warren Daniels who continued at the old stand until they



removed to Rutland, Vt.; 1853 to Francis Locke (Ann); 1853 to the Cheshire Railroad. In 1923 the Boston & Maine Railroad sold the farm to Alba M. Bragg (Mary F.); 1927 the buildings and the area around them to Lucy A. Whitcomb; 1936 to Frank W. Whitcomb; 1945 to Frank W. Whitcomb Construction Company. The Whitcombs built the new house up on the bank; 1945 to Earl F. Jones; 1955 to Kenneth E. and Anna Fredette.

590. EUGENE CRAY GARAGE: In 1930 L. A. and F. A. Whitcomb deeded to Charles H. Porter of Rockingham the lot next west of the old tavern where the garage now stands; 1930 to Collis Porter; 1934 to Eugene P. Cray.

591. EMERSON H. WELCH: Next to the railroad crossing, northeast of the highway, is the old grain store of John H. Byrnes. We have no deed to Byrnes, but it may be assumed that he got permission from the railroad company to erect this building. The land between the main highway and Cold River was used for cattle pens, this being a great shipping point. Harry Wright was a baggage car man for the B & M for years, beginning in 1903 and continuing on this run from Fitchburg to Bellows Falls for over 50 years. When he first came up through here, the grain store was here and Mr. Byrnes was elderly, or seemed so to him. The farmers from far around drove their animals in for shipment and bought their grain. The station agent lived in the tenement above the grain store. The Byrnes estate sold 1918 to Charles H. Garrity, the 2½ story building and the coal shed west of the tracks. In 1937 Alba Bragg deeded the land to Emerson H. and Lily A. Welch, and Annie F. Byrnes, sole heir of Charles Garrity, gave a quit claim deed to them for the buildings.

592. GREENHEART MARINE EQUIPMENT CO., INC.: In 1928 the Braggs sold land south of the highway across from the old tavern to The American Mineral Products Co., Inc., which erected a plant for grinding the feldspar brought in from the mines in Acworth, Alstead, etc.; 1934 receiver sold to Seaboard Minerals Corporation; 1942 the corporation bankrupt, transferred to General Minerals Corporation; 1946 to J. F. Morton, Inc.; 1956 to Foote Mineral Company; June 1962 to Greenheart Marine Equipment Co., Inc.

## ATKINSON STRIP

When Benjamin Bellows and Theodore Atkinson divided the town between them in 1766 Atkinson's share included a 2028 acre strip extend-



ing from the Langdon line south as far as the Welch place (#586) south of Drewsville, and from the Alstead line west to Connecticut River, except that the southwest corner, including the Cold River Meadows, went to Bellows. This tract Atkinson and/or his heirs sold in five large tracts, plus a small one on the Connecticut River. (1) The 100 acre piece at Drewsville was sold to Gen. Benjamin Bellows in 1782. This extended from the foot of the falls on Cold River a half mile easterly and from the Langdon line south to the road to Alstead Center, roughly. (2) Thomas Sparhawk sold in 1798 to Levi Hubbard and Joseph Jones 246 acres extending from tract 1 to south line of strip. (3) From these two tracts east to the Alstead line Levi Bellows had in 1795. (4) West of the Bellows and Hubbard-Jones pieces was a tract purported to be 650 acres (more likely 560 acres), the full width of the strip, and extending west to include the present town dump. This was sold by Sparhawk in 1800 to Stephen R. Bradley; 1804 to Amasa Allen. He reserved a 250 acre strip off the south side of the tract, sold the rest 1806 to Thomas C. Drew, Asa Sibley, William Pierce and David Stone. Thomas Drew eventually had all of it. (5) The tract next west Samuel Sparhawk sold 1804 to Jonathan Royce. (6) Six acres along the Connecticut River George Atkinson sold 1782 to Enoch Hale.

#### ROAD NORTH OF COLD RIVER, WEST TO EAST

593. HERBERT O. WOOD: This is part of the old Wightman farm, northeast corner. In 1853 Warren Daniels (Caroline) sold 80 acres here to Francis Locke (Ann); 1853 to Cheshire Railroad; 1919 Fitchburg Railroad to Boston & Maine; 1923 to Alba M. Bragg; 1927 to present owner who built two-story house with barn, south of highway.

594. NOBLE WILLIAMS: This is part of the Elisha Royce farm north of Cold River, out of the old Atkinson strip which Thomas Drew took on a bond from Royce 1822. The part west of Griswold Brook (which comes down off the south end of Fall Mountain) Drew sold 1834 to Thomas Tole (Julia Murphy) of Langdon, 100 acres. He came from Ireland about 1823, located in Drewsville, then Langdon. Apparently Julia was called Judy. She and son John sold the farm in 1854 to son-in-law Jonathan Putney. The house, probably built by Tole, stood north of the road opposite #594 and #595. It was struck by lightning September, 1893, burned to the ground.

In 1895 son William Putney took the property north of the road, daughter Minnie took that on the south side, built a house 1899; 1900



Minnie sold land to William J. Cairns (Ermind A.); 1904 to Anton Wolfel (Mary Hecker); 1946 Mary to Noble and Elsie Wolfel Williams.

595. IRENE WOLFEL ESTATE: In 1884 Jonathan Putney sold to his sisters-in-law Margaret A. and Mary E. Tole a piece of land south of road and they must have built the house here, next east of Williams house, perhaps Minnie lived with them. They sold in 1900, the year before they died, to Leola L. Clark (Scott W.) of Rockingham; they lived here; 1920 to Walter C. Hadley of Rockingham; 1920 to Milan D. Royce of Putney; 1925 his guardian to Anton P. Wolfel. It is now in a state of disrepair, unoccupied.

The land north of the road in 1907 William Putney sold to J. Whitney Buckminster; 1908 to Whitcomb Manufacturing Company; 1910 to Anton P. Wolfel Jr. who divided it as follows:

596. ARTHUR L. PARRIS: In 1951 from the Mountain Road east along the road to Gilbert's sawmill, to Sidney G. Sabins; 1955 to Arthur L. Parris (Pauline M.) house up on side of mountain, road to it.

597. RICHARD A. GILBERT: In 1946 185 ft. along the road to Richard A. Gilbert.

598. JOHN PONEK: In 1941 to Forest S. Horner (Helen A.); 1944 to Leon Woodbury (Lucinda R.); 1945 to Sidney G. Sabins; 1946 to John Ponek (Madeline K.); Abbie Sabins Greene lived here 1961.

599. ABBIE SABINS GREENE: In 1941 to Leon W. Woodbury; 1945 to Sidney G. Sabins; 1947 to Sidney P. Sabins; 1957 to Abbie E. Sabins Greene.

The northeast part of the old Elisha Royce farm became known as the Cobb lot, extending north from the bank north of the "Plain" to the Langdon line, and from the intersection of the town line with the road north of Cold River west to Griswold Brook. When Joseph Cobb (Jerusha) sold to Joseph Wells in 1853 he reserved the part of his farm north of the river (see #606). In 1854 he sold to Lyman (Abigail) and Henry J. (Emeline) Watkins; 1856 to Peyton R. Chandler (Levinah) of Rockingham; 1857 to Alphonso Jefts (Elmira), William W., William and Don Clough of Putney; 1860 to Robert Elwell of Langdon. (Jefts was then of Langdon.) Elwell had also bought from Samuel Slade the Slade piece 50 rods along the Langdon border, 32 rods deep. Exactly where along the line this piece was situated is not made clear in the deed, probably near the northeast corner of the Cobb lot. This land remained in the Elwell family until Robert Elwell's daughter, Mary E. Stanley of Greenfield,



Mass., sold in 1915 to Alba M. Bragg; 1918 to John A. Duncan of Rockingham, Vt.; 1920 to Anton P. Wolfel. Wolfel broke it up as follows, west to east:

600. CHARLES WESTCOTT: 1939 to Charles C. Westcott and Nellie A., strip 300 ft. wide through to river; little white house, back from road.

601. JOHN A. LOWERY: 1932 to Charles B. Martin of Gilsum; 1945 to Arthur L. Lottes (little piece next to river at east end of tract); two pieces next east of Westcott and another piece by the river 1943 and 1945 to Arthur L. Lottes and Ruth M. of New York City; 1958 all their holdings to Ruth Marion New of New York City; 1960 to John A. Lowery of Rockingham. House on side road up mountain.

602. PERLEY SMITH: 1936 sold 950 ft. along road; 1946 all east of Lowery that he did not already own to Perley Smith (Amelia B.).

603. DONALD K. ROUNDS: In 1946 Smith sold to Donald K. and Elizabeth Rounds 200 ft. along the road, north side.

604. ALFRED G. WILSON: Smith sold to Alfred G. Wilson 200 ft. along road, next east. There was a cellarhole on this lot. This may have been the Slade lot—the only place that lot could have been on the highway, although it could conceivably have been the Cobb cellarhole. Nothing is shown on the 1858 map.

#### ROUTE 123 EAST FROM HATCH'S CORNER

605. FLOYD C. PETERSON—PEEP O'DAY: In 1804 Jonathan Royce bought from Samuel Sparhawk of Portsmouth all that remained unsold of the 2028 acres Atkinson strip west and northerly of Jonas Fairbanks and Samuel Wightman. The southwest corner of this, next to Wightman, he sold in 1819 to Levi Jennison, eighth child of John.

In 1824 Levi bought additional land so that he had about 75 acres. He had built a house on the first land north of road; 1826 sold to Daniel Anderson of Langdon, later moved to Drewsville, then Alstead; 1827 to Robert Cochran who sold to his daughter Jane who married Mason Fay; 1832 to Josiah Simons (Lydia C.); 1850 to James Chandler Jr. (Mary B.); 1858 to Reuben Clough (Cynthia M.); 1866 to James and Augusta Fuller of Charlestown; 1868 to Edward R. Pease of New York City; 1874 to daughter Edwerta Pease Bond (Edward S.); 1883 to Louis Frisch; 1884 to Wesley M. Huntley of Rockingham, Vt., came to be part of the brewery property. December 1886 the farm buildings of Wesley M. Huntley



burned, known as "Peep O'Day," occupied by James Martin. In 1916 Harry Ball bought from the brewery interests; his widow Etta sold in 1937 to son Robert.

In 1941 Robert Ball sold to Herbert R. Westcott a house lot north of the highway near the northeast corner of the Roman Catholic Cemetery. He built a house here, sold 1948 to Floyd C. and Isabelle W. Peterson. The old cellarhole is west of the Peterson house.

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Cemetery, south of road, is out of the Jennison farm, consecrated August 1891.

606. COLD RIVER SAND & GRAVEL COMPANY: The Atkinson south line crossed Route 123 (diagonally) about 50 rods northeast of the fork in the road east of Hatch's Corner and crossed the Walpole-Drewsville (Hubbard) Road about the same distance north of the Four Corners. The line was at an angle 12 degrees north of west. It extended westerly (crossing the power line) to Tole's land, then northerly crossing Cold River at about the same place as the power line, northerly to the edge of the woods at the base of Fall Mountain, then westerly over the mountain to Connecticut River.

The rest of the tract that Jonathan Royce bought of Sparhawk, other than what he sold to Levi Jennison, he sold to his son Elisha. Elisha's house stood on a road which connected the road on the "Plain" with the Brewery Road, all excavated now. There was also a road that came down from Jennison (Ramsay) Hill and crossed Route 123 east of the Catholic Cemetery (still evident now because a barricade has been built across it where it comes into Rt. 123). It continued down to the Bellows Mill on Cold River in 1783. All traces of a mill have been destroyed south of the river; on the north there is an old dugway down to the river. Location is indicated by road records.

In 1823 Elisha sold his land on the plain to his brother-in-law Nehemiah Royce. It remained in the family until Grace Royce Wellington finally inherited and sold 1932 to Hermon O. Woodward; 1950 to Frank W. Whitcomb Construction Company. There is nothing in the records to indicate that there were any buildings here after Elisha left.

The north part of the farm Elisha lost to Thomas Drew 1822; 1838 to Joseph Smith (Hannah) of Alstead; 1840 to Sarah E. Lathrop (Mrs. Hope); 1841 to Thomas D. Bond; 1842 to Joseph Cobb of Alstead.

In 1853 Joseph Cobb sold that part of his farm south of Cold River to Joseph Wells; 1870 (then known as Cobb lot) to brewery interests which held in one name or another until 1915; to Herbert F. Nelson of Sharon,



Mass.; 1915 to George E. Whitcomb of Swanzey; 1916 to Alba M. Bragg (Mary F.); 1917 to Wallace L. Gillett (Bertha M.); 1948 to Nelson W. and Orella A. Lesure; 1950 to Frank W. Whitcomb Construction Company.

In 1954 both Whitcomb tracts were transferred to the Cold River Sand & Gravel Corporation. This remarkable deposit of gravel has been so completely excavated that there will never be any traces of what has been.

South of Rt. 123 Andrew Barr lived for a time. He had been flooded out below North Walpole. His incomplete house burned Jan. 2, 1946. He died Nov. 11, 1953 (83) alone in his little house.

## BREWERY ROAD, WEST TO EAST

607. GORDON H. PRATT: This was part of the Levi Jennison farm, became a part of the brewery property; 1916 Whitcomb Manufacturing Company sold to Alba M. Bragg; 1917 to Wallace L. and Bertha Gillett; 1948 to Nelson Lesure (Orella A.), who built a house; 1955 to Leonard F. Barry; 1957 to Gordon H. and Anna E. Pratt.

608. EUGENE VEGA: In 1934 the Gelleetts sold to Mrs. Ina Ravey of Rockingham, Vt. land and buildings at the intersection of the Cobb Lot Road and the Brewery Road; 1952 her heirs to Eugene Dante Vega (Shirley Madeline) of Dorchester, Mass., house south of Brewery Road.

609. MARION SABINS: The site where the brewery stood south of Cold River and north of the road was divided into lots A (west) and B (east). In 1915 Adelheide Wessell bought the A lot with a 1½ story house; 1920 to Walter C. Hadley; 1921 to Sidney G. Sabins (Marion E.). The B Lot with the brewery boarding house and bottling house Wessell seems to have had also; sold in 1917 to Truscott Fuller; 1929 to Sidney G. Sabins. There was more to it, but this is the substance.

In 1931 Sidney G. Sabins deeded property here to the Mountain Spring Trout Club, Inc. They stayed in existence until May 1, 1941, when they deeded it through their secretary Marion Sabins to Frederick L. Osgood, since the club had forfeited its right to exist through failure to pay charter taxes. This through the years has been the site of many large outings, picnics, and clambakes. There were four cottages and two log cabins.

The south part of the Atkinson tract next west of Drewsville the Allen heirs sold in 1830 to Ephraim Holland. Most of the land is wooded, but out of this tract are these two homesteads on the "Plain" north of the Four Corners.



610. ELLEN H. AMSDEN: In 1860 Nancy M. Holland sold to Ivah N. Farr and Allen Wells of Westminster 125 acres more or less; 1871 10 acres here to James T. Holmes who built a house; 1890 W. A. Bond took the place, Holmes removed to Drewsville Village; 1890 to Eunice M. and Harry E. Tarbell; 1893 to William W. Stone; 1897 estate to Hope L. Lovell; 1897 to Morton A. Snow; 1900 to Abbie A. Lovell; 1908 to Henry W. Porter; 1910 to Nicholas Angelo; 1922 to Carrie L. Buswell; 1959 to Leon A. and Ellen H. Amsden. Now about 30 acres. Leon A. Amsden died 1961. In 1910 Angelo built a new house. In 1961 Ellen T. Amsden, widow, sold a lot north of her house to William G. and Alice R. Geer who have a trailer.

611. JOSEPH WILK: There was a house here in 1858, marked E. Holland, but there is no way of knowing who lived here. In 1861 Nancy Holland sold 92 acres to James McDonald; 1865 to John Ryan who had been up in what is now the Seward pasture; 1867 his widow Ellen to Harriet A. Buxton; 1879 Harriet A. Rugg to Moses and Ferdinand S. Elliott; 1889 Moses Elliott to James A. B. Smith of Langdon; 1891 to Edward S. and David J. Bond; 1896 Edward S. Bond to Henry S. Frost of Rockingham, Vt.; 1907 to Enoc Bowe, single; 1910 to Henry W. Porter; 1914 to Joseph Wilk. Charles Rice resided here probably about 1870.

## ROUTE 123

TOWN DUMP: This came out of the old Fairbanks farm (or Drew farm or Cold River Farm), from the 24 acres that Hope Lathrop sold from Thomas C. Drew's estate 1849 to Aaron P. Howland. The northeast corner was at the intersection of Cold River and the Langdon line, the lot about 26 rods wide on the Drewsville-Bellows Falls Road, the river the north boundary. In 1912 the Howland estate sold to Chauncey J. Newell; 1918 to Harry A. Ball. His son Robert S. sold 1950 to the Town of Walpole, now used as the town dump.

612. FAIRBANKS CELLARHOLE: North of Rt. 123, perhaps a third of the way from the dump to the intersection with the Hubbard Road from Walpole to Drewsville, is the cellarhole where Mrs. Fairbanks' house stood in 1858. This we have not been able to explain. The 1858 map is reliable and shows ownership of homesteads, but there are no deeds indicating that a Fairbanks ever owned here. Perhaps Uri (or Jonas) Fairbanks settled here as a squatter before Atkinson started selling the land, and was suffered to remain, and this was his house. Aldrich wrote



that Drew bought a square mile of Uri Fairbanks, but there are no records to substantiate such a statement. The nearest is a quit claim deed that Jonas Fairbanks gave to Stephen R. Bradley in 1800 for \$5, quitting any claim he had to the Cold River Farm, the 650 acre tract. The name Fairbanks Farm clung to the tract, particularly the north part.

The old #12 school was in the clump of pines north of road, a nice boiling spring not far away. Prentiss said “. . . About 20 rods from the corner at the stone quarry towards Drewsville, I attended school here a few terms when there was no school in the Valley.”

## DREWSVILLE

Drewsville as a village did not come into its own until after the building of the Cheshire Turnpike from Charlestown and Langdon through this hamlet and Walpole Valley to Surry and Keene. W. P. Porter wrote thus of the Cheshire Turnpike in the *Walpole Gazette*, October 22, 1891:

“I could sit in my seat in the old, anciently constructed schoolhouse and look out of the window opposite my seat and often see from one to six 2, 4, 6, and even 8-horse teams at one time loaded with merchandise and other products going and coming on the old Cheshire Turnpike to and from Boston. This was the great thoroughfare from the north. . . . This was the mode of transporting goods from Boston to supply these towns. . . . It was a universal custom among the farmers in town to go to Boston, Nashua, and Lowell with their pork, beef and grain, and exchange them for six months supply of West India goods, groceries of all kinds and such dry goods as were not manufactured at home. . . . Wetherbee collected toll every 10 miles or less. . . .

“Drovers used to drive large droves of cattle, sheep and swine on this road to market. I remember seeing droves of turkeys and geese with hundreds in a drove. . . . But usually the farmers did not sell their poultry until winter when they dressed it at home and carried it to market with their beef and pork. It took them 2 or 3 weeks to go to Boston and return. . . .

“This Turnpike also afforded quite a little source of income to the farmers situated along beside it, in furnishing their oxteams to assist the heavy loaded wagons to pass up the steep Walpole and Surry hills, and when a teamster called upon them they left all other business to perform the required assistance, having stated fees for doing this work.”

Another factor in the development of Drewsville was the water power at the Falls on Cold River. There were, as late as 1840, three woolen mills running at the same time, as well as various woodworking enterprises and gristmills. There were two stores, a hotel, a church, a school. It is said that from 1820 to 1830 more business was done in Drewsville than in Walpole Village. After the freeing of the Turnpike and the



passing of the mills, Drewsville settled back into the role of pleasant residential country village.

#### NORTH SIDE OF COMMON AND NORTH ON TURNPIKE TO RIVER

613. JOHN JACOB KOSON: This place in Drewsville Village was the old Drew farm, a part of the holdings of Thomas Drew et al. Thomas Drew's son Francis Gardner Drew lived here, died without issue, so the farm went to the heirs of his sister Sarah Eliza who had two sons Josiah and Thomas D. Bond. Both sons resided in Kenosha, Wisconsin. After Sarah Eliza Drew's first husband, Dr. Joseph Bond, died, she married Hope Lathrop who had two daughters Sarah E. B. (Mrs. Bolivar Lovell) and Lucia (Mrs. Norman Farr).

This property remained in the family until Martha Ellen Lovell Smith Shrimpton sold in 1910 to David A., Francis A., and Carl E. Mann; 1938 Carl E.'s widow, Phoebe, to Kenneth R. and Evelyn R. Towle; 1943 to John, Mary and Charles F. Koson. Charles died and his widow Gonoefa Koson of Cavendish, Vt., sold 1950 to John and Mary Koson; 1959 to John Jacob and Helen Koson. Place rented to Smith.

614. HARLEY PRENTISS: Between the Drew farmhouse and the store is Harley Prentiss' new house on what is known as the Queen Ann Cottage lot. Various members of the Drew-Lathrop-Lovell family owned through the years, others lived here. In 1892 it was two old ladies named Pease who were Bond relatives.

In 1909 Martha Ellen Lovell Smith Shrimpton sold to Maria A. Lovell (second wife of Hope Lovell); 1917 to Dan B. and Flossie Williams; 1920 to David G. Raymond. It must have burned while Raymond owned for he sold 1925 to Herbert G. Barber for \$200; 1926 to Edna G. Raymond; 1931 to Ellen A. Buxton; 1935 to Grace D. and William H. Swasey of Acworth; 1937 to Ralph S. and Eleanor H. Vining; 1946 to Harley Prentiss.

615. STORE—HARLEY PRENTISS: In 1814 Thomas C. Drew sold  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre to Gilbert Griswold Jr. and Ira White. Judging by the increase in price when Griswold sold his share to White in 1815 it may be inferred that they had erected a building. He styled himself then as merchant. In 1816 White sold to John F. Wilcox of Surry (wife, Sally); 1818 to William Porter (Martha), plater; 1823 to Thomas H. Heaton (Mary). At that time the site was described as being on the Turnpike (Cheshire) and the "State



Road leading from Geer's (probably Geyer's) bridge in Walpole to McGregor's bridge in Goffstown. . . ."

In 1825 Heaton sold to Martin Butterfield Jr. and Alva Walker "Also all privilege I have to piece of land leased to me by Thomas C. Drew together with the potash standing on said piece, reserving to myself right of removing the kettles from said potash." He also reserved the store long enough to close out his business. In 1826 sold to William King of Langdon; 1828 to James Chandler of Alstead; 1831 to Thompson Chandler & Francis G. Drew. King obtained judgment against Chandler & Drew, and sold 1832 to Thomas C. Drew after several manipulations; 1846 left to his sons Charles C. and Francis G. Drew, they to Hope Lathrop who kept store here for many years. Sarah E. B. Lovell left to Hope Lovell; 1909 to Martha Ellen Lovell Smith Shrimpton; 1910 to Cleon R. Demerse; 1911 to Elmer G. Buswell of Alstead; 1919 to Charles L. Moulthrop; 1928 to Raoul J. and Emma M. McKenven. The house and store building, connected, burned while McKenven owned it. In 1930 McKenven sold to Ellen A. Buxton of Concord; then see transactions for house next west. Harley Prentiss now owns.

The store was in the front of the building, sheds at rear. The upper story was used for storage—a wheel upstairs for drawing up the things to be stored—sleighs, etc. In 1858 this was known as the N.E.P.U. store; Herbert Buswell came here 1893, operated a variety and general store for many years. McKenven built the present store.

Hope Lathrop was a plater in Drewsville in 1819. While he had the store, he also had the post office here and the Deputy Sheriff office.

616. EDWARD R. SANTAW: In 1813 Thomas C. Drew sold to Joseph Field of Alstead the lot next east of the store; 1814 to Jonathan and Israel Brown (Nelly); 1815 to Jonathan Brown with buildings; 1816 to Otis Ballou; 1817 to Jesse Jaquith (Charlotte); 1819 to Otis Ballou (Lydia); 1822 to Joseph Field; 1827 to Jacob Putnam. He died by 1830 leaving his widow with a large family. The property remained in the family until his daughter-in-law Cleora Corbin Putnam (Mrs. Henry) sold in 1914 to Benjamin F. Brown and Sarah E. Vittum. Brown had retired from the family farm east of the village. She died soon and he sold 1914 to Henry C. Johnson; 1916 to Mary C. Clough; 1934 to Robert S. Ball; 1959 to Edward R. and Gretchen E. Santaw. House burned while Ball was here; he built new. The Post Office was here at one time.

617. BLACKSMITH SHOP—WILLARD PRENTISS: In 1822 Thomas C. Drew gave a quit claim deed to Moses Southard ". . . land and is same where a



blacksmith shop now stands on west side of Cheshire Turnpike and is same now used and occupied by Adams Milliken." Milliken was in Charlestown for many years.

". . . Alvin Beckwith, (was) the village blacksmith, who for many years shod horses and oxen in the old shop, now Willard's (Prentiss) antique room. At his death his son, Charles C. Beckwith, who had learned the trade working with his father, carried on the business for many years. As time went on he was one of the last to shoe oxen. At this trade he was an expert, and farmers came from long distances to avail themselves of his skill." *Prentiss* p. 13.

## EAST SIDE OF TURNPIKE OUT OF DREWS' LAND, SOUTH TO NORTH

618. MARYAN JADKOWSKI: In 1814 Thomas Drew sold to Aaron and Moses Southard (twins) two acres on the corner east of the Turnpike and north of the road to Alstead Center. They prospered in their store here; sold 1819 to Martin Butterfield Jr. and Alvah Walker. The Southards removed to Haverhill, N. H. Their account books have been available for this work. Subsequently the firm of Butterfield and Walker, which failed about 1828 or '30, was followed by Bellows & Crosby for a short time. William Bellows, a son of Josiah Sr., and Edward Crosby, a son of Parson Crosby of Charlestown, made up the firm. Butterfield and Walker sold to William King of Langdon 1826; 1833 to Josiah Bellows 3rd & Co.; 1848 to W. A. Bond who had a store here many years and the post office. This was a two-story building, with the house to the east connected. Downstairs was the Bond store, upstairs a dance hall. At one time there were three dance halls in Drewsville. The Bond heirs sold 1910 to Fred E. Crosby; 1911 to Hattie M. Comptois (Mrs. F. A.); 1917 to Stella E. Campbell; 1920 to Edgar C. and Susan L. Belden; 1927 to Charles A. Moulthrop (Mildred); 1927 to Carroll H. Heselton of Alstead who had a garage here; 1945 to Maryan Jadkowski of Langdon. This place faces south on road to Alstead Center.

North of #618 the land drops down to a new level where there are the following five houses:

619. J. W. PRENTISS III: Next north, east of the Turnpike is the old Lowell lot. In 1813 Thomas C. Drew sold lot to Ziba Lowell, mill man, he probably built the house, originally 11½ stories, raised about 1900. By 1851 the various Lowell heirs had sold their shares and Joseph Fisher owned and rented to others; 1855 to Mary Shackford (John) who by 1857



had removed to Jackson, California, and sold to Timothy Isham; 1872 Isham heirs to Jerusha Cobb; 1882 her estate to Adeline M. Fisher (Joseph); 1925 Fisher heirs to Lovell B. and Ida B. Whitaker; 1929 to Katie M. Prentiss; 1949 to John Willard Prentiss III.

620. JOHN WILLARD PRENTISS III—HOME PLACE: This is the old Joseph Fisher place. The old line between the Fairbanks Farm and the Bellows 100 acre tract ran through this place. In 1812 Thomas C. Drew sold to David Fisher the part out of the Fairbanks Farm; 1814 to Oren Hall who in 1815 bought from Aaron Graves the part out of the Bellows' tract on the east; 1816 Hall to Levi Jennison. Probably a house was here then; 1822 to John Emerson; 1834 to Anan Evans; 1841 to David Fisher who lived here; 1847 to Joseph Fisher; 1927 to Charles W. Russell, judgment against Frank Fisher; 1929 to Minnie B. Prentiss  $\frac{1}{2}$  of property; 1937 other  $\frac{1}{2}$  estate of Charles Russell to John W. Prentiss Jr.; 1948 to John Willard Prentiss III  $\frac{1}{2}$  and other  $\frac{1}{2}$  in 1959.

621. ELIZABETH PRENTISS COYNE: Oren Hall had this from Thomas Drew and David Fisher. Hall resided here; 1816 to Thomas C. Drew; 1834 to David Fisher; 1842 to Joseph Fisher; 1847 to David Fisher; 1868 Charles Fisher had from his father's estate; 1869 to Willard Grant; 1878 to Samuel G. Ellis; 1879 heirs to Sarah Jane Ellis who married Marvin Tuttle and they sold 1881 to Charles Edward Beckwith; 1932 to Charles W. Russell and Minnie B. Prentiss; 1949 to Robert A. and Elizabeth N. Hart. Now owned by David and Elizabeth Prentiss Coyne. This is a very old, low red house, known as the Charles Fisher place.

622. JOHN MONASKI: In 1811 Caleb Bellows sold to Aaron Graves Jr. three acres bounding for 22 rods on the old west line of the Bellows' tract, then continuing north 12 rods along the east line of the Turnpike. The east line was the Back Road from Joseph Jones' to the mill. The point between the roads was not included. The north line was north 84 degrees west 10 rods from the east road to the west. The piece in the point is now Hayes.

The main part of his three-acre piece Aaron Graves sold 1816 to Jacob Putnam; his heirs 1838-9 to John P. Maynard who must have sold to David Fisher (no record). In 1857 David Fisher sold to Charles Fisher, along with the mill, a house east of the turnpike which came out of the Aaron Graves land to Jacob Putnam; 1869 to Oliver Martin; 1870 to Alvin A. Beckwith; 1912 son Charles E. to Horace L. Quinton; 1922 he left property to Town of Walpole which sold to Charles S. Chandler; 1932



his daughter Mabel B. Harriman of Northfield, Mass., her half to Harley H. Chandler of Bristol, Conn. October 13, 1935, the house was practically razed by fire; 1940 Harley Chandler (Edith) to John W. Prentiss Jr. and Minnie B. Prentiss; 1952-3 to John W. Prentiss III; 1959 to John and Lois Monaski. When the house burned, it had been unoccupied for several years. The firemen pumped water from the river to fight the fire but were hampered by heavy traffic. John W. Prentiss Jr. built the present house about 1943.

623. RICHARD C. MILLER: The next place north Aaron Graves Jr. sold 1815 to Anson Graves (Asenath); 1815 to Abel Page; in 1823 he had removed to Essex, N. Y., sold to Moses Fisher (Mary) with a building on it; 1823 to Martha Bellows of Charlestown; 1834 to Royal B. Milliken (Sarah) of Springfield, with understanding that she (Martha Bellows) could lease "two east rooms, one-half of northwest chamber, use and occupancy of so much of kitchen as will be necessary for washing and baking, privilege of setting and using a loom in back room, so much of cellar and woodhouse as needed . . ."; 1835 to Betsey Waldon; 1836 to Norman Cobb (Mary) of Putney, Vt.; 1836 to Royal B. Milliken; 1837 to Charles T. Wetherbee (Nancy H.); 1841 to Jonas Farnsworth; 1846 to John P. Maynard (Roxy); 1853 to Thomas Nichols; 1865 heirs to Samuel D. Cobb; 1898 to May F. Putnam of Claremont; 1903 to Joseph B. Cobb who retired here from his farm on Whitney Road, later his son Joseph who removed to Walpole Village; 1913 to Benjamin F. Brown; 1914 to Charles S. Chandler of Alstead; 1932 estate to Blanche E. and Henrietta E. Welch; 1942 Blanche's estate to John W. Prentiss Jr. and III; 1951 to Richard C. and Marjorie V. Miller of Brookfield, Mass. She is daughter of Lucius Slade.

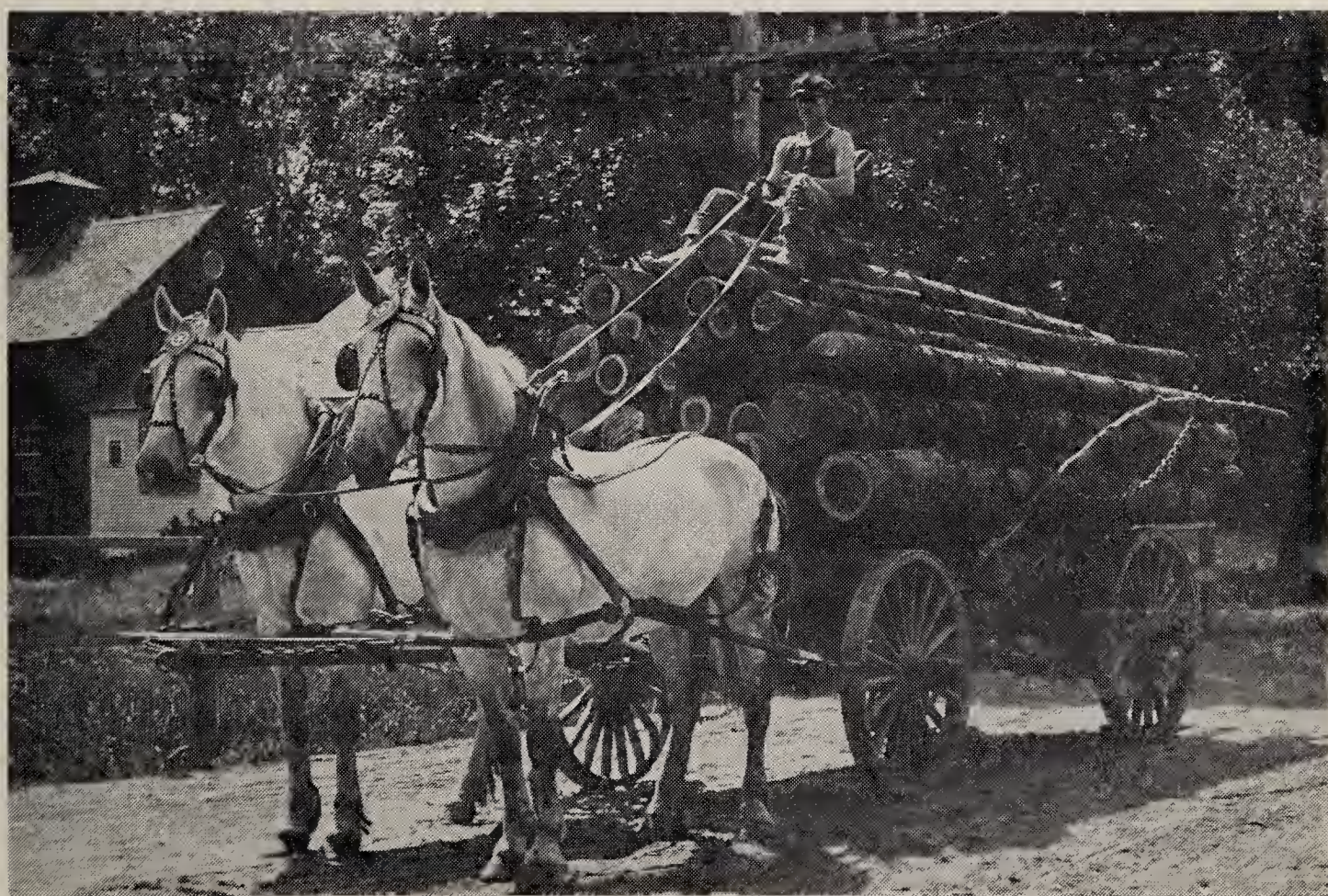
This is very old house, originally 1½ stories, high above the road.

624. ALBERT D. LACLAIR: This place is down over another bank from the previous places. Prentiss wrote: "There was a bowling alley at the foot of the hill close to the river, and I remember when there was also a house near it where Mr. Carpenter lived." In 1856 Jacob Putnam's heirs sold out of his holdings here, one acre with buildings to Amanda Carpenter Holbrook of Rockingham. She was Zachariah Carpenter's oldest daughter, her brother Albert lived here; 1881 her heirs sold to William J. Chandler; 1883 to Emily M. Wright of Charlestown; 1885 land and buildings were foreclosed by William A. Bond who sold to Nellie E. Douglas who later married Nelson L. Burnell; 1921 to Sidney Harris (Nellie L.); 1924 to Fred Prentiss; 1931 to Bertrand A. Bates of Charles-





DELIVERING BARRELED APPLES TO DEPOT in 1905  
Zenas Foster and H. H. Thompson



DICK KILBURN DRIVING C. H. SLADE'S TEAM

*(Watkins)*





AT THE WENTWORTH HOTEL, Nov. 25, 1876



MR. AND MRS. HASTINGS, MR. AND MRS. PERRY, GEORGE ALDRICH, DAN KINERY, Coachman





L. B. HOLLAND'S TEAM



ROAD SCRAPER ON NORTH MAIN STREET about 1915

(Watkins)



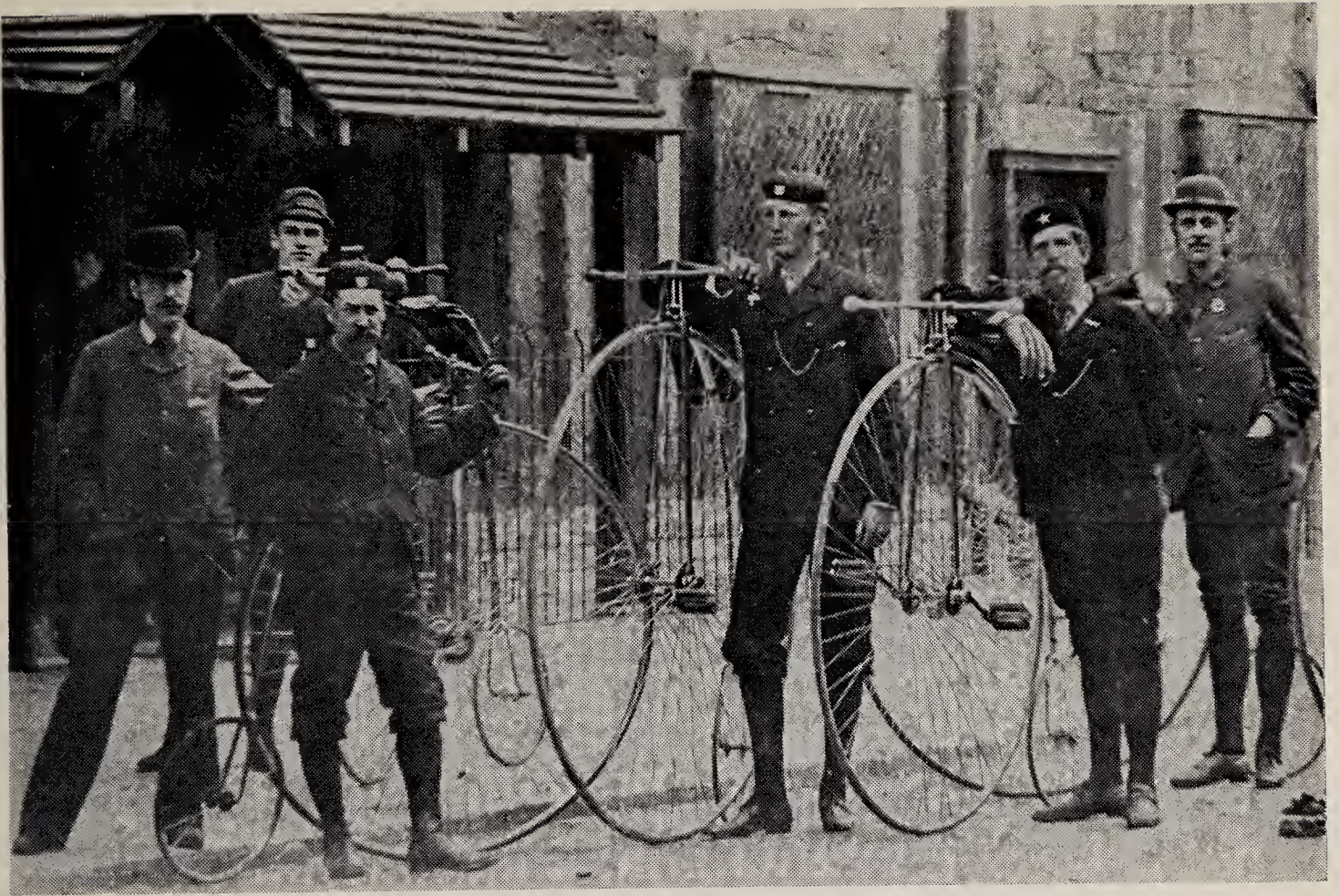


SIX HORSE SNOW ROLLER ON WESTMINSTER ST. about 1920



SCHOOL TEAMS about 1920



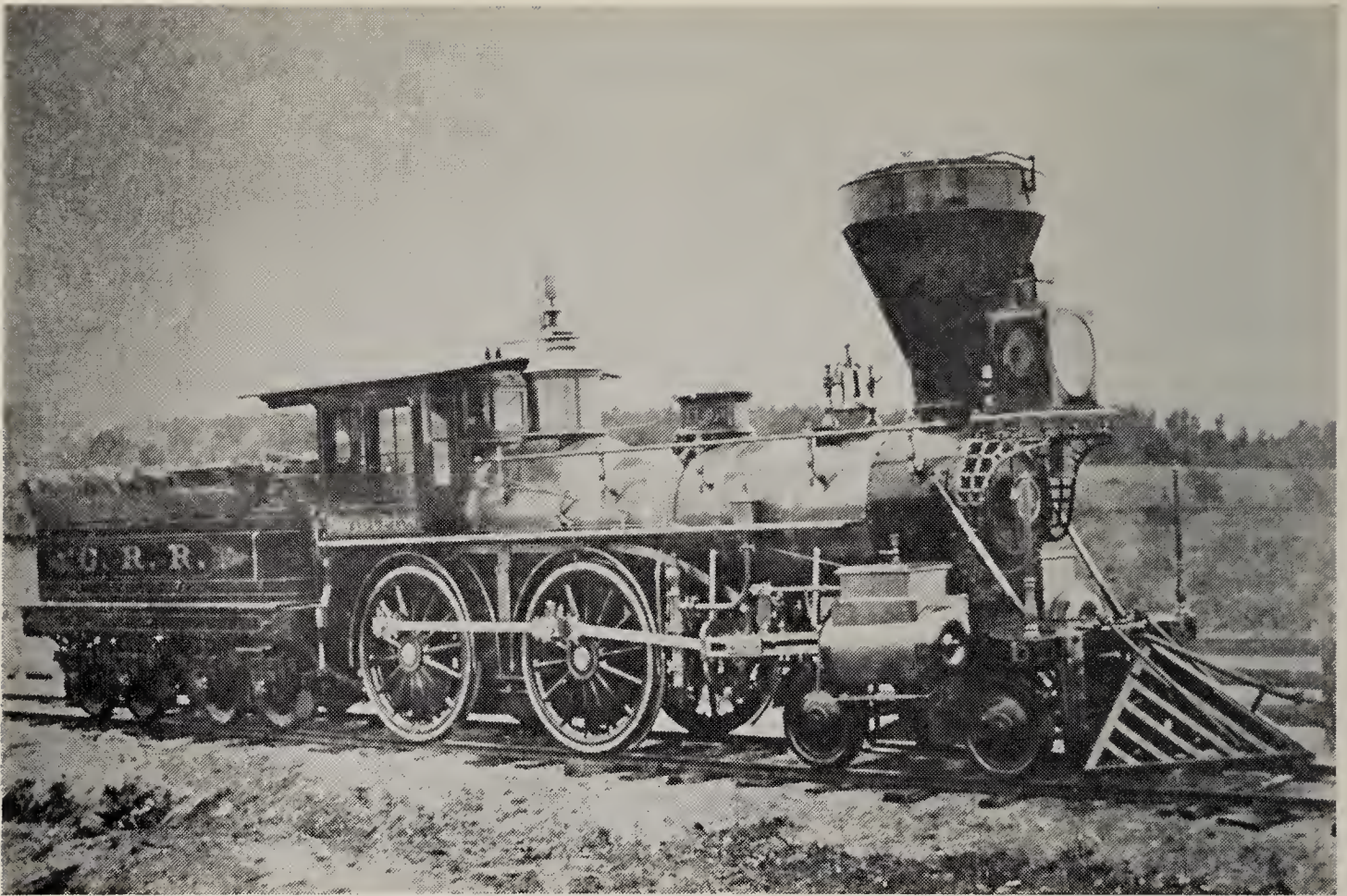


NELSON HASTINGS AND CYCLISTS



WALPOLE DEPOT about 1920





"THE DAVID UPTON" FORMERLY "THE PRESIDENT" built in 1851 (Foster)  
Served the Cheshire R.R. through Walpole



ROUNDHOUSE IN NORTH WALPOLE in 1962 (Williams)  
"Steamtown" collection of locomotives

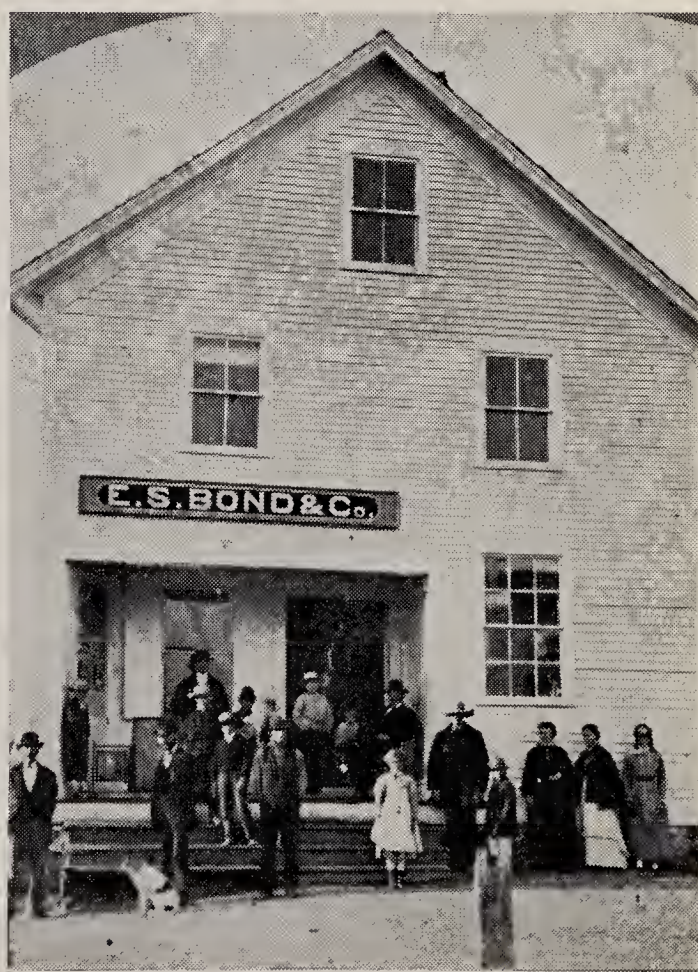




#3711, ONE OF THE LAST STEAM LOCOMOTIVES TO SERVE WALPOLE about 1945 *(Driscoll)*



OLD #15, EARLY 1900's *(Driscoll)*



STORE IN DREWSVILLE (#615)





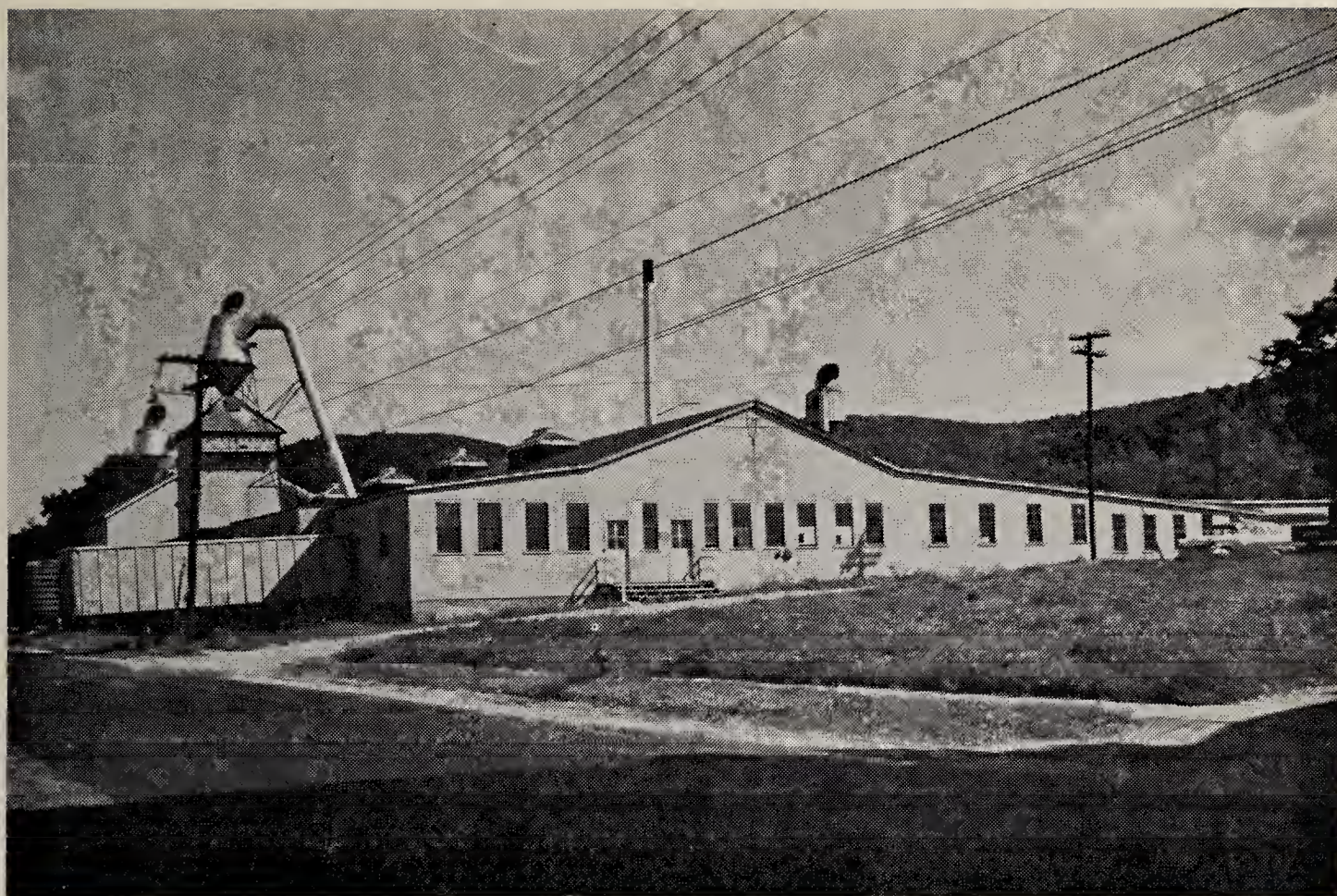
"THE CHESHIRE", Budd Streamliner Started Runs to Boston 1944

*(Foster)*



WRECK OF THE CHESHIRE, WALPOLE DEPOT Jan. 1945





J. H. DUNNING CORP. (the box company) (#N48) (Baker)



OFFICE OF F. VOSE AND J. G. BEL-  
 LOWS before 1872 (#167)



THE FOUNTAIN IN THE SQUARE  
 about 1910





FILLING CHARLES H. SLADE'S ICEHOUSE (#467)



CUTTING ICE ON THE MILLPOND about 1915





ICE DELIVERY TO WALPOLE AND WESTMINSTER about 1915  
Will Stowell Weighing a Block of Ice

*(Watkins)*



H. O. WOODWARD'S CHRISTMAS WREATH BUSINESS





HUBBARD FARMS, MAIN OFFICE AND HATCHERY in 1960 (#465) *(Harris)*



HUBBARD FARMS, HOME HATCHERY AND FIRST OFFICE *(Harris)*





TECHROMATIC PLANT, North Walpole

*(Baker)*



NEW HAMPSHIRE, Hubbard Farms  
Foundation Stock, Earlier Years



HICKS MACHINE COMPANY (#488)  
S. T. Hicks at left





IRONING ROOM, BATES & ALDRICH SHIRT FACTORY before 1876 (#14)



BAIN'S MARKET about 1915 (#109)  
M. Podwin, A. Cole, S. Houghton, C. Bellows, W. Mitchell, C. Bain





CRAY PACKING CO. AND UNDERPASS before 1926 (#N50)



MOUNTAIN SPRING BREWERY, 1893-1904 (#606 and #609)





EXTRA SUPPLY OF MEAT in 1918  
T. B. Buffum, Chas. Bain



MT. KILBURN INN, NORTH WALPOLE (#N19)  
The only hotel in Walpole in 1962

(Baker)



town; 1938 land and buildings to Harold K. Hayes (Dorothy M.); 1956 to Albert D. and Madeline B. LaClair.

## DREWSVILLE MILLS

We may divide the mills at Drewsville into three groups: those east of the Turnpike which were in the Bellows' tract; those west of the Turnpike and south of the river, also in the Bellows' tract; and those north of the river and west of the Turnpike, out of the Fairbanks Farm.

Gen. Benjamin Bellows who had mills here on the country road in 1875, willed his property here to his son Caleb except for the sawmill which he had sold to Uri Fairbanks.

### MILLS EAST OF TURNPIKE

The sawmill property east of the Turnpike which Bellows had sold to Uri Fairbanks was sold 1806 to David Stone; 1807 to Thomas C. Drew, William Pierce, innholder at Keene, Asa Sibley—a  $\frac{3}{4}$  interest; 1808 Sibley and Stone sold their half to Nehemiah Chandler; 1810 Pierce his  $\frac{1}{4}$  to Oren Hall, chaisemaker, who sold same year to Nehemiah Chandler; 1812 Drew sold his  $\frac{1}{4}$  interest to Walpole Farmers' Cotton & Woolen Factory Company and Chandler sold his  $\frac{3}{4}$  interest to same company. In 1812 the legislature granted a charter to "Walpole Farmers' Cotton & Woolen Factory Co.", Thos. C. Drew, Moses Fisher, Nehemiah Chandler & Associates. Capital allowed \$40,000; \$10,000 for real estate and erecting buildings; residue for raw materials, machinery for spinning cotton and woolen yarn, weaving the same into cloth, coloring and dressing it; \$20,000 of this amount tax exempt for first five years; \$100 shares.

In 1843 Jason Wetherbee of Charlestown, agent for the above company, sold their property here for \$1500 to Asa Davis and Dana S. Holden "being same water power privilege deeded . . . to Uri Fairbanks." They mortgaged "one sett of woolen machinery—4 looms, 3 carding machines, 1 spinning jack, 1 shearing machine, 1 gig, 1 press, press plates and poppets, 1 warper."

In 1852 they sold woolen factory and dwelling houses to Royal Shumway of Langdon; 1855 to Thomas Taunt of Springfield, Vt., woolen factory and all buildings. There followed numerous mortgages, foreclosures, etc.

Probably it was into the Walpole Farmers' Cotton & Woolen Factory that Jacob Putnam put the machinery in 1812, as recorded. That mill burned, a later mill burned, and finally Taunt's mill burned 1860. Pren-



tiss wrote: "The woolen factory was gone before I can remember and Thomas Taunt who ran it had changed to hotel keeper, the main business of which was selling hard liquor. The hotel was a long building painted white with an ell toward the road, with a horse barn attached, so as to leave a large dooryard. The barroom was at the far end from the road, and was well patronized. . . . Taunt had a dance hall in the hotel and ran dances regularly." And from the *New Hampshire Sentinel* 1877 "The character of the Cold River Hotel (Taunt's) was purified by fire May 1, house, barn and shed completely consumed. The fire was discovered in a corner of the barn about 10 P.M., time enough to remove livestock, what furniture was worth saving. The occupants removed to other quarters. It was supposed to be incendiary, well covered by insurance." Taunt then set up business in the old Drew Tavern.

Robert Elwell bought what was left of the property in 1880; 1882 to Henry Elwell; 1883 to Samuel D. Cobb; 1898 to Nellie E. Burnell; 1912 to Galen H. Howard; 1938 to H. Kenneth Hayes (Dorothy M.); 1954 to Calvin H. LaRue. Hayes has taken it back.

#### MILLS WEST OF TURNPIKE SOUTH OF COLD RIVER

According to the record of the 1783 county road, Bellows had mills here then, probably a sawmill east of the road (later Uri Fairbanks) and a gristmill on the west. In 1817 Caleb Bellows sold to John Brown of Concord, Mass., mills and water privileges. Of course, this did not include the Fairbanks mill east of the road, so it is possible that there were both saw and grist mills west of the road. One may still see the loop of the road that went down to these mills. In 1820 Brown sold to Jacob Putnam and Moses Fisher. In 1823 Benjamin Maltby and Maltby Fowler sold to them the right to make and use a hulling or smut machine for their grist mill during the term of the patent. Putnam was a mill man here in Drews-ville, but Moses Fisher lived over on Maple Grove, having a little mill of his own on the brook, carried out by freshet 1826. There he had manufactured cotton yarn and his son David peddled it about the country. After this calamity he sold his interest in the mill on Cold River to his son David. It is not evident whether Fisher ever had a woolen mill of any kind here, but about 1838 Charles T. Wetherbee had carding machines, looms, etc., probably here, and about 1839-40 he and Dana S. Holden were occupying the factory building of David Fisher, making woolen cloth with dye house west of the factory on Cold River. Asa Davis was here with Holden in 1843 and 1849 in the woolen business. The gristmill David sold to his son Charles in 1857, a carding machine in the



gristmill at that time. A freshet in October 1868 swept away the gristmill and carding machine establishment, a severe loss to him.

In 1834 Horace Faulkner is said to have built a shop to the south on the bank on the Fisher land (no deed). He was in business here with Hartwell. In 1837 David's son Joseph started the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds in the Faulkner shop, buying the machinery from Faulkner 1838 "water wheel, line of shafting, drums on same." He continued until he sold in 1898. The gristmill property Charles sold 1869 to his father-in-law, Oliver Martin; 1879 to Joseph Fisher. One fifth of the water was allowed to go to the shop. Frederick Fisher sold in 1898 to William H. Kiniry of North Walpole; 1901 to Oliver J. Butterfield; 1902 to Copley Amory, along with the Bond water rights and land.

Prentiss wrote of these places about 1870: "At this time Joseph Fisher had a sash and blind shop on the river at the foot of the hill adjoining the saw and gristmill. Many a time I have taken (there) a few bags of corn on the ear with perhaps a bushel of shelled corn for the family corn meal. . . . These trips to mill were of great interest to us youngsters. We watched the miller start up the mill stones and saw the grain in the hopper converted into golden meal, and we had time while waiting for our grist to watch with never ending wonder the saw mill, the log rolled on to the carriage, a lever pulled, and the up and down saw slowly work its way through the log, and finally see the board drop down. . . . Charles Fisher, who operated the mill, had but one arm, having lost the other by an accident in the mill. This mill did a thriving business."

When people around town modernized their old houses, they bought windows at Fisher's, for example, the Ira Hubbard house.

May 1898 D. J. Bond's new dry house, filled with dry birch, took fire late in the afternoon and burned.

#### MILLS NORTH OF COLD RIVER, OUT OF DREW LAND

In 1808 Asa Sibley and Thomas C. Drew sold to Nehemiah Chandler seven acres in the northeast corner of the Drew farm, abutting on the northwest side of the Bellows 100 acre tract, along the Langdon line. The east line was 64 rods, the southeast corner being on the Turnpike south of the old Fisher gristmill. The following is taken from a deposition made by Nehemiah Chandler in 1852 when there was a dispute over water rights.

"Lyman Chandler of Alstead states he is owner in fee of a tract of land in Drews-ville on which is a sawmill and water privilege connected with it which land lies on both sides of Cold River, that an interest in said water privilege adverse to said Lyman



is claimed by William A. Bond and Charles B. Bond, that David Fisher and Joseph Fisher also claim an interest in said water which may also restrict your petitioner in his lawful rights to same, that said William, Charles, David and Joseph are only persons supposed by your petitioner to be interested in any controversy concerned in said mill privilege. . . .

“The Deposition: Nov. 4, 1852:

“I, Nehemiah Chandler of Winhall, Vt., depose and say as follows that I was 74 years old last February, that I have lived in Winhall, Vt., 14 years last March, that from 1808 to 1817 I owned a fulling mill and water privilege on Cold River in Drewsville below the Cheshire Turnpike. In 1808 I purchased of Thomas C. Drew and Asa Sibley a tract of land of about 7 acres in said Drewsville on which was a dwelling house and sawmill and mill dam on said river. At that time the dam and flume were used for no purpose except for the sawmill. Previous to my purchase there had been a grist mill in the same building which had gone into disuse. The flume extended from the dam to the wheel and was about 70 ft. in length. My impression is that there was about 12 or 14 feet of head and fall but cannot be certain. I should think the flume was somewhere about 6 ft. wide. I built a fulling mill in 1808 in August directly against the flume and above and near the sawmill. The same building I put up is now standing on the same ground. The building was so near the flume that the caps of the flume came into it. I did not board up the building against the flume until I had got above the top of the flume. The water was taken out of the side of the flume for the use of the fulling mill and on a level with the floor of the flume. I think we used a flutter wheel for the fulling mill. I think the wheel was about 3 ft. long; it could not exceed that, for a general rule it was sufficient to raise the gate from an inch to 1½" to do the work with, we used an upright gate on the side of the flume which was raised by a lever from the inside of the fulling mill. I carried on the fulling mill from the time I erected it until 1817 except 2 years in which I rented it.

“The sawmill was carried on under my management from 1808 till I conveyed it to Ziba W. Lowell by my deed of August 1812 and afterwards by said Lowell until his death which was some years after 1817. A part of the land which I purchased of Drew and Sibley with the sawmill was sold by me to Lowell while I owned the whole privilege, the flume was swept away by a freshet and I rebuilt it on the same sills. I went to the privilege this morning, the flume is not so wide as when I built by 1½ ft. or 2 ft. I should think. I did not measure it and I should think it was now about 3 ft. from the fulling mill leaving that space between the flume and fulling mill. At the time I owned the privilege the dam stood about 30 ft. up the stream from where it now does. . . .

“The grist mill was carried by a tub wheel which stood below the sawmill wheel. This wheel was never used after I bought it. The sawmill wheel was about the middle of the sawmill. No other machinery beside the fulling mill was carried by water in that mill while I owned it. We took water by a spout from the flume for rinsing and coloring. The flutter wheel was built for me in 1808 by Samuel Loomis of Alstead and was similar to many others he built about the same time. The same wheel remained there until I sold. I never knew of the former position of the flume being changed until after Mr. Bond bought. When the flume was carried off by the freshet, the sills and underpinnings remained there. I have no knowledge that they have ever been changed. I am not certain that the water for the flutter wheel was taken out of the side of the flume but feel pretty sure that it was. There was no change in the mode of taking the water



from the flume while I owned it nor afterwards to my knowledge. I think the opening covered by the gate was about 2½ ft. long and about 4 inches wide. I don't know that I ever measured it. I never have made any actual measurement there. I never examined the dam at the Factory privilege below the sawmill.

"There was none there when I sold to Lowell or while I lived there. I dressed cloth there the whole year, but the principal part of the business was done from the 1st of September to January. In 1816 I employed 4 hands in the fulling mill beside myself. In 1816 I charged I think about \$3000 for the cloth I dressed at the fulling mill. This was more than an average season. I rented the fulling mill 2 years to Roswell Kittredge for \$200 a year. The work done there was to take the flannel, dress and color it and finish it into fulled cloth.

"I sold the premises consisting of about 4 acres of land, a house and barn with the fulling mill privilege to Hubbard and Fisher for \$2100 in 1816. I sold the sawmill and privilege and about 3 acres of land to Z. W. Lowell for \$400."

Ziba W. Lowell died Feb. 26, 1826 (43). In 1851 his widow Rhoda, then the widow of Simeon Hill of Waterford, Vt., and his daughters Emily R. (Mrs. Lowry D. Hill of Waterford) and Maria H. (Mrs. James H. Bigelow of Lyndon, Vt.), along with Charles and Edna R. Houghton of Windsor (whose relationship was not given) sold their rights to Lyman Chandler, land and sawmill; 1855 to Charles B. Bond.

In 1817 Nehemiah Chandler sold the fulling mill, dwelling and barn to Daniel Hubbard of Walpole and James Fisher of Alstead, clothiers, close to river, 5 rods east of Putnam's line. In 1819 Hubbard sold to James Fisher who mortgaged and lost to Levi Hubbard who sold 1822 to Richard Kimball, a mill man from Charlestown; 1826 to Jacob Putnam and Henry Cram "his stand for manufacturing and dressing cloth, to add carding of wool"; Putnam's dwelling was then near the west side of Nehemiah Chandler's original tract. Putnam died, Cram lost to Kimball who sold 1846 to William A. and Charles B. Bond (brothers), dwelling, barn, two shops, woodhouses.

Next west of Nehemiah Chandler's 7 acres north of the river, Thomas Drew sold one acre in 1814 to Elijah Sherman "with privilege of building a dam"; 1815 to Jacob Putnam. In 1818 Putnam and Marvin erected a new carding machine to do custom work for cash and produce.

By 1836 Giles Marvin had a woolen factory here with the following equipment: 4 cashimere looms, 1 warper and dresser, 2 spinning jacks, 1 wool picker, 1 double carding machine, 1 single do, 1 naper, 1 shearing machine, 1 press and screw and bar, 1 copper kettle containing 150 gals., 1 fulling mill, 1 brushing machine, 1 gig, 50 jack spools, 6000 bobbins. In 1837 he had the following stock: 37 pieces cassimeres containing 869 yds.; a lot of fleece wool containing 2200 lbs. wool, 1200 lbs. carding and spinning waste.



Marvin had bought from the Putnam heirs in 1835. Finally in 1839 Lucy Putnam (widow of Jacob) sold for \$1000 to Samuel Nichols, William Bellows and Philip Peck; Nichols heirs 1860 to Haskell F. Hartwell; his heirs to Francis Gleason; 1866 he and his wife Emeline F. to Charles B. Bond.

Thus, all the water rights west of the Turnpike except those owned by the Fishers came into the hands of the Bonds. They manufactured pill boxes, first the brothers Charles B. and William A. Bond, then the latter's sons, Edward S. and David J.

"W. A. and C. B. Bond of Drewsville, in 1846, commenced the manufacture of pill boxes for David Janes & Sons, Philadelphia, Pa., and have continued the business to the present time (1880). They manufacture 45,000 gross annually, besides manufacturing picture frames for advertising, of which they have made 300,000. Considerable job-work is also done at their shop—sometimes necessitating the employment of several workmen." (*Aldrich*, p. 178)

The 1900 spring freshet damaged the Bond dam, making it necessary to rebuild the part near Alstead bridge before the mill could be run.

In 1901 David J. Bond sold the property to Oliver J. Butterfield; 1902 to Copley Amory who also bought more from Martha Ellen Lovell Smith Shrimpton and sold all 1925 to Ashuelot Gas & Electric Company, along with the Fisher mill property; 1926 to Public Service Company of New Hampshire; 1944 to Gilman Frye.

625. GILMAN FRYE: When Nehemiah Chandler bought here in 1808 there was already a dwelling house, probably on the cellarhole where the lilacs and roses are growing at the west end of the clearing west of Gilman Frye's present house. It may have been occupied by the various mill owners, but in 1826 it is definitely referred to as Putnam's (Jacob) dwelling, in 1838 as Cram's (Henry). When William A. and Charles B. Bond bought the property in 1846 there was a dwelling, probably this same one. The 1858 map is not specific here. Perhaps something happened to the old house, and W. A. and C. B. Bond built a new house a bit west of Gilman Frye's present house. It was probably rented, the ownership being in hands of those more interested in the water power. Hazel Buswell remembered Knight who ran the mill living here. It was a small red house, old and weathered. It burned November 1927, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Harl (or Hal) Moultrope, an elderly couple, who lost everything they had. Gilman Frye bought the property in 1944 and built a new house.



626. H. KENNETH HAYES: While Hayes owned the mill property on the east side of the highway, he built a new house south of the road to Alstead.

## WEST SIDE OF COMMON

The places west of the Common all came out of the Drew property.

627. CARROLL CELLARHOLE: South of the road from Drewsville to Bellows Falls, about opposite the Koson house, was the cottage of Patrick Carroll. In 1860 Hope Lathrop sold him the house lot here. In 1886 the property passed to his wife Catherine. Thomas Taunt bought 1887 and it became a part of the tavern property, nothing here now.

Next east of the Carroll house there was a blacksmith shop which was moved to the tavern site after the fire.

628. RALPH E. WHITMAN—TAVERN LOT: According to Aldrich, Thomas C. Drew manufactured brick in Walpole Village and intended to build himself a house there, "but owing to some unpleasant occurrence between Drew and some of the leading men of the village, he resolved to abandon his project of building in the village and immediately removed his brick to the east part of town and erected the commodious building now owned by Thomas Taunt, and occupied as a hotel. After its completion it was opened for the accommodation of the public by Mr. Drew, and thereafter, till his death, he continued to keep it open. As a house of public entertainment it was favorably known, and many a jolly hour was spent by the Colonel, with such men as Gov. Henry Hubbard, Aldis Lovell, Esq., and others of like kith, who were in the habit of occasionally congregating there." (*AH* 130)

It was built 1810 and was famous in its day when stages and large freight wagons took passengers and merchandise to and from Boston.

The tavern property remained in the Drew family until Thomas Taunt bought it in 1875. After he was burned out at his old boarding house down by the mill, he kept tavern here. John W. Prentiss wrote: "Taunt was a remarkable man. He was unable to read or write, but was shrewd in all business transactions. He loved fine horses and always had one or more on hand, doing considerable trading on the side. A runner greatly admired a mare that Taunt had, and finally bought her after being told by Taunt that she could go a mile in three minutes. On his next trip, the runner complained that Taunt had misrepresented the mare's speed. 'You told me she could trot a mile in three minutes, and a



mile in four minutes is the best she can do.' Says Taunt, 'You must be in a hell of a hurry if you can't wait a minute.' "

He named the old tavern the Mountain House, sold 1886 to Henry A. Huntley; his widow who had married Hope L. Lovell, sold 1895 to John J. Pierce; 1907 to Dennis Brennan. It was not a particularly profitable business, the income derived largely from the sale of liquor. While Brennan owned it the old place burned. The fire broke out at 2 A.M. all at once, the whole building enveloped in one blaze. Hazel Buswell was on the roof of their place opposite to keep sparks from catching when her hair caught fire; first she knew, they squirted water on her.

The New England Box Company bought the land here, sold this corner lot 1908 to Henry E. Putnam; 1912 his widow Cleora P. to David A. Mann who built the present house; 1918 to Carl E. Mann; 1921 to David A. Mann; estate to Ralph E. and Emma G. Whitman.

629. DOROTHY SPENCER SOWERBY: Second south of the tavern was the Hope Lathrop cottage. In 1836 Thomas C. Drew sold the lot to Lathrop who later became his son-in-law. Lathrop probably built the house. In 1874 Ellen Matilda Pease owned briefly, sold to David J. Bond; 1896 to Sarah E. B. Lovell, willed to Hope Lovell; 1909 to M. Ellen Shrimpton; 1910 to Lessie A. Chase unmarried; 1911 to Julius H. Porter of Langdon (see *Langdon History* 625). He died Nov. 1, 1919, estate sold 1920 to Fred C. and Henry O. Porter; 1921 to Nelson and Nellie Burnell; 1931 to Albert C. Halladay; 1940 to Russell W. and Billigene D. Hosmer; 1943 Natt Divoll owned briefly, Dr. Charles A. and Josephine Dalrymple Knox; 1947 to A. Ray and Rosemary M. Spencer. She died about 1949. He died, now owned by second wife.

630. DOROTHY SPENCER SOWERBY: Between the Lathrop cottage and the tavern, Thomas Taunt sold 1883 to Edwerta P. and Edward S. Bond; 1895 to Abbie Lovell. There was a two-story frame house here, which must have burned while Lovell owned it. Her heirs sold 1910 to Hope L. Lovell; 1920 to Raymond Wyker (Weiker); 1921 to the Burnells and it has continued with the place next south.

631. DR. THOMAS J. HAGAN: Next south is the old Hitchcock house. In 1834 Thomas C. Drew sold a house lot here to Samuel Nichols, said Nichols to keep the fences around the lot so long as Drew should own the adjoining land. In 1860 his heirs sold to Benjamin Hitchcock. Prentiss wrote: "The Hitchcocks were a fine family. Hiram Hitchcock Sr. was at one time associated with Mr. Vilas and ran the Fifth Avenue Hotel in



New York, one of the most noted in the country. Hiram Hitchcock, a nephew of the senior Hiram, lived with them."

In 1863 the place came to Hiram Hitchcock; 1890 to Fanny H. Maynard; 1893 to George H. Hitchcock; 1899 to Emily H. Howe (Hitchcock); 1907 to Mary Alice Scanlon who had previously owned next south of the Mansion; 1919 to Raymond and Annie G. Wyker; 1925 she to Eva M. Royce (Mrs. Leland Royce); 1928 to Charles A. and Daisy B. Jefts of Sullivan; 1938 estate to T. J. and Margaret M. Hagan.

632. GEORGE E. WHITON: Parsonage lot—Thomas C. Drew left this property in trust for the use and benefit of St. Peter's Church, rented for years. In 1945 it was partially destroyed by fire, trustees petitioned to be allowed to sell, Mary Elizabeth Hagan of Baltimore, Maryland, sister of Dr. Hagan, bought; 1953 to H. Booth and Clara C. Wood of Bellows Falls; 1959 to George E. Whiton.

633. JOHN A. MANSUR: In 1836 Thomas C. Drew sold this place to William Bond Jr., who was already living here; 1842 to William A. Bond; 1887 to Thomas Taunt (1892 rented to B. Supple); 1897 to Lora A. Bellows (Mrs. Charles L.) who moved in to take care of Taunt; 1905 to Enoch Bowe. His wife was Antossia Bandio, both born Russia. He worked at Railroad Roundhouse and died Keene March 18, 1952 (72). He sold 1909 to George and Alice E. Allison; 1910 to H. Herbert Buswell.

In November 1893 Herbert Buswell leased the Drew Farm, store and dwelling near the post office of Bolivar Lovell estate, opened a variety and general store. In November 1894 he assigned his property to his creditors, the first failure in Drewsville for 60 years. However, in April 1895 he reopened the store and continued in business, amassing considerable property. His daughter Hazel remained at home and helped with the business. She was a rich source of information concerning Drewsville. Mr. Buswell was also an auctioneer. Their house here remained in the family until it was sold 1960 to Gilbert E. and Janice M. Gay; 1961 to John A. and Agnes R. Mansur.

634. TOLE CELLARHOLE: Hope and Sarah E. Lathrop sold the next place south to members of the Tole family, first 1859 to Mary and Margaret, 1865 to Charles W. who raised his large family here. In 1874 Charles and Mary sold to Samuel Mellish whose daughter Augusta (Mrs. William Chandler) had it. She rented it. It burned Sept. 1903 while W. W. Wilder lived there. The land now belongs to Robert Ball.



## EAST OF COMMON

635. DOROTHY SPENCER SOWERBY: On the corner south of the road to Alstead Center Samuel Nichols bought a house lot from Thomas C. Drew in 1831, had a store here for many years. He was born in Stoddard Dec. 10, 1787, son of Thomas. "When ten years of age he came with his parents to Walpole, and, with the exception of two or three years, resided in town during life. . . . He was brought up a farmer, but was engaged in teaching . . . for sixteen years. During the War of 1812 he enlisted in Col. Bellows' company and went to Portsmouth and was secretary to the colonel of the regiment. . . . In 1821 he settled in Drewsville where he engaged in mercantile and manufacturing pursuits. . . . He took an active and prominent part in the political and civic interests of the town, and was many times elected to fill various town offices. . . . He was a Baptist in religious sentiment, and labored hard to establish a permanent society in Drewsville." (*AH* 341-2) "At the time the Episcopal chapel was built or immediately thereafter (1837) at his own cost he built a small chapel for the Baptist denomination, where meetings were held for several years; but after a while the interest waned and the meetings were suspended. During the church's palmiest days it is said the membership was some thirty or forty." (*AH* 142-3) The building is still standing but was used for a time as a carpenter shop, more recently as a garage. The old panelled door remained for many years.

In 1864 his heirs sold to Alvan Allen of Alstead; 1868 to Charles A. Witt; 1906 heirs to Miss Rose S. Webster; 1919 to George E. Pratt; 1928 his son Leon E. to Henrietta E. and Mary E. Heselton; 1956 to A. Ray Spencer and wife Dorothy. Dorothy Spencer married again after death of A. Ray Spencer.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH: In 1834 Thomas C. Drew gave to the Protestant Episcopal Society the lot next south. Meetings had been held for some years in Mr. Drew's public house. In 1836 the present stone chapel was built and consecrated, Bishop Alexander V. Griswold officiating. At that time the name was changed to St. Peter's Church. In 1867 the inside of the chapel was altered and repaired at a cost of \$2000. The church edifice now stands unused.

636. WARREN WHITMAN: In 1815 Thomas Drew had sold the two acres next south to Gilbert Griswold. In 1829 when his estate was put up to auction, his son George S. and daughter Rebecca bought, probably a house here then. They sold 1834 to Samuel Hartwell; 1835 to Aldis



Lovell. His son Willard (Willie) A. inherited. He married 1861 Julia A., daughter of Lyman Chandler of Alstead, was drowned in Cold River 1872. Mrs. Julia Lovell kept summer boarders here and later in Walpole Village. She later married Fred A. Wier. The Wiers sold in 1913 to Charles E. and Stella M. Whitman; 1955 other heirs to Warren H. and Marion T. Whitman.

637. SAVINGS BANK OF WALPOLE: In 1815 Thomas Drew sold the one acre lot next south to Josiah Bowtel of Charlestown; 1818 to Josiah Flint; 1819 to Joseph Bond; 1832 to Josiah Flint with house and barn, Flint already residing here; 1833 to Eliza A. Baker; 1900 heirs to Julia A. Wier; 1907 to Leslie H. Chandler who probably came here after his farm buildings burned. On the south side of the lot Hollis Chandler built a house for his son about 1937; 1941 Hollis G. Chandler sold to Mary E. Hagan; 1943 she sold the old house (over 100 years old) on the north to John G. and Mary V. Hall; 1961 to Savings Bank of Walpole.

638. CARLTON H. NELSON: In 1944 Mary E. Hagan sold the new house on the south to Carlton H. and Margaret H. Nelson.

CEMETERY: East of these lots was the land which Thomas Drew gave to the Town of Walpole in 1816 for a cemetery.

639. DONALD R. MORRISSEY—OLD BURT PLACE: The lot at the southeast corner of the Common Thomas C. Drew seems not to have sold, it staying in the family until M. Ellen Shrimpton sold in 1909 to Fred E. Crosby. However, this was known as the Burt Place. Aldrich wrote of Holland Burt: “. . . learned the cabinet-maker's trade and married Nancy, the only daughter of Alexander Watkins, and located in Drewsville and built the large dwelling now standing on the southeast corner of the common”. He later removed to the village, but this place always bore his name even though there is no deed recorded in his name. Aldis Lovell lived here (1892). The big two family house, which stood where the lilacs are now, burned in 1909, Cooks living here at the time.

In 1911 Crosby sold to Charles D. and Elizabeth Cook. In 1911 he moved his cottage from Church Street over the cellarhole; 1922 to Charles A. and Rose Varmette of Langdon; 1923 to Allen J. Bean of Rockingham; 1924 to Phoebe Mann; 1925 to Estha W. Wetmore, to Clara J. C. Chandler. In 1926 her heir, Walter L. McCaslin of Longmont, Colorado, sold to Estha W. Wetmore of Keene; 1929 his heirs, Cassius B., Nellie A., and Gus Wetmore, Marion A. Brooks and Bertha B. Ramsdell, all of



Keene, sold to Raymond M. Galloway of Alstead; 1937 to Donald R. and Hester M. Morrissey of Bellows Falls.

640. ARTHUR L. PINARD—THE MANSION: At the south end of the Common was the old Hope Lathrop house. Soon after her father's death Sarah Lathrop Lovell built her mansion around the old square house (September 1880).

Thomas Drew had sold 1½ acres here to Joseph Bond in 1815 who sold to Hope Lathrop. In 1910 M. Ellen Shrimpton sold to George A. Brown of Everett, Mass.; 1911 to Annie E., wife of Frederick A. Higgins of Newton, Mass.; 1912 to Galon H. Howard of Alstead; 1919 his heirs Mabel A. Sawyer of Worcester, unmarried, Ruth N. Bergeron of Keene, Ethel M. Buswell of Alstead sold to Ralph D. and Belle H. Halladay; 1945 to Arthur L. Pinard of St. Albans, L. I., and Elmer M. Nelson of Springfield, Vt.; 1947 to Pinard.

641. JOHN J. WILK: In 1834 Thomas C. Drew sold this house lot to Martha Rice of Boston. In 1841 there was an indenture recorded between Josiah Flint, Martha Rice and Hope Lathrop. Josiah and Martha were contemplating marriage, but she wished to reserve this property to her own control and also the following personal property: 1 cow, 1 note against Charles Rice secured by a mortgage of yoke of oxen and cow for \$109; 1 note against Samuel Nichols \$40 and interest, \$50 in Savings Bank of Boston, 1 bed and bedding, 1 bureau, 1 timepiece, iron ware, crockery ware, and furniture now in house on premises. . . . Marriage intentions were recorded Nov. 25, 1841. On Feb. 14, 1854, Martha Flint married Thomas Nichols and in April they sold this place to Ezra A. and Jerusha E. Turner; 1863 to Oralin Tuttle; 1873 to John Tole who died leaving a widow and minor child; 1890 to Kate Tole; 1900 estate to Mary Alice Scanlon; 1908 to Joseph Porter of Alstead; 1921 estate to Kittie J. Leach; willed to Stella E. Patterson, Nelson B. Ober and Hazel E. Buswell, the two former selling their rights to the latter in 1941; 1960 estate to John J. and Marjorie E. G. Wilk.

642. ROBERT S. BALL: This came out of the old Drew property, Thomas D. Bond selling land and buildings 1843 to George W. F. Bellows.

Robert Ball owns house here, set back some distance from the road. Toward the highway is a neat cellarhole.

"Benjamin Bellows, son of Joseph, came to Walpole to live in 1786, and married in 1791 Lucy Cox (sister of his brother Salmon's wife). He lived for a time in Rockingham, for two or three years in Drewsville, and finally settled on a farm in Walpole Valley.



The house still standing (1898), is the first house on the road leading from the 'Squire's woods' on the Drewsville road to the Valley." (*Bellows Gen.* 146)

"About 1826 he removed to Lennoxville, Canada . . . of his children only one, George Washington, remained permanently in Walpole."

According to *Bellows Genealogy* 324 George Washington Bellows (1794-1873) was a wheelwright and farmer, and resided in the cottage now owned (1898) and until lately occupied by his son, Charles Lowell Bellows. He married 1820 Philetta Lowell, sister of Ziba W. Lowell of Drewsville who served in the War of 1812 in Capt. Josiah Bellows' Company of Artillery.

"Charles Lowell Bellows was engaged in the livery business in New York with his brother George Franklin until the business suffered from the death of the latter in 1872. Charles returned to Drewsville and engaged in manufacturing and farming. He is an ingenious and skilful mechanic, making with his own hands the vehicles needed in his farm work, and designing and carrying out himself improvements and additions to his buildings. He has resided until lately (1898) in the cottage in which he was born, and still lives nearby." He married 1890 Lora Anna Dunham of Westminster, no children. (*Bellows Gen.* 527-8)

643. ROBERT S. BALL: Thomas Nichols had the southeast corner of the tract which Amasa Allen sold to Thomas C. Drew et al., east of the Turnpike, probably resided here. His wife Prudence, or Pruda, Thompson died July 23, 1849 (66) and he married second Martha Rice Flint who lived in the next place toward Drewsville.

Thomas and Prudence sold the place 1849 to Henry R. Willson; 1860 to James Chandler. "At the end of the village towards the Valley was the large, square roofed yellow house of James Chandler. I remember them mainly on account of their son, Bill Chandler, who was a natural clown with great ability as a comedian. He had a sense of humor which at the present time would mean a fortune." (*Prentiss*)

Mrs. James Chandler was Mary B. Tuttle and in 1860 they sold the place to Laura and Sarah A. Tuttle. The buildings burned December 1886. In 1889 Mary B. Chandler sold to her daughter-in-law, Augusta H. Chandler; 1892 to James T. Holmes; 1898 estate to Abbie A. Lovell; 1899 to Willard and Amelia O. Newton of Athol, Mass. He probably cut the timber, then in 1901 sold to Etta Barnes Ball, inherited by Robert S. Ball.

## ALSTEAD CENTER ROAD

644. J. L. BAKER: In 1798 Levi Hubbard and Joseph Jones bought of Thomas Sparhawk the 246 acres in the Atkinson strip from the Bellows 100 acre tract south to the Atkinson south line. In 1806 they divided the tract, Jones (cooper) taking the west half and Hubbard the east. Jones died 1813 (41) leaving his wife Mary with six children ranging from 15



years down to infancy (or perhaps a posthumous child). About 35 acres in the northwest corner, south of the road from Drewsville to Alstead Center, was set off as the widow's dower, including about half of the house and barns on her east line. She married a Fenton and in 1845 resided in Alstead when she sold to John P. Maynard and Aldis Lovell; 1846 Maynard to Lovell; 1861 to Matthew Tole; 1870 Tole (Margaret) to Moses H. Knight of Langdon; 1883 Knight (Emeline L.) to Cleora P. Putnam; 1913 to Estha W. Wetmore of Plainfield; 1916 to Fred J. and Marguerite Canton Avery of Rockingham; 1922 to J. L. and Hattie Baker of Boston.

645. JONES CELLARHOLE: West of Norma Koson's place. South of the road near the east line of the Baker lot was the Joseph Jones house. The widow sold her half to Aldis Lovell. Through transactions with Samuel Adams it came into William Cross' hands in 1855. Catharine Hubbard, widow of Daniel who died 1839, owned the west half of the house as her dower and lived here. Still in Walpole until 1887, she died Rutland at the home of one of her children that same year. It is not clear what became of her half, but in 1858 William Cross owned. The house does not appear on the map in 1877. It now belongs with the Norma Koson property.

646. NORMA KOSON: Next east and close by was a house probably built by Samuel Hubbard sometime prior to 1834. He sold 1842 to John P. Maynard; 1857 to Henry Lane. Carley Lane lived here. His name may have been Charles, so listed in census and deeds, but referred to as Carley in other records. He was a wool puller and farmer, probably worked for Maynard in the tannery. Their son Henry resided in Boston, and bought the place for his parents. In 1894 Nellie M. Wallace bought the place. In 1918 sold to Charles S. Chandler; 1938 to Mildred R. Whitney Moulthrop (Charles A.) who kept store Drewsville 1938; 1938 to Alice Lewis and George O. LeDuc; 1939 to Nina M. Switzer of Bernardston, Mass.; 1941 to Jacob Koson Jr. and Norma, wife; 1952 to Norma Koson. The Jones house site is now included in this property but it has not come down the same all the way. The Jones house was opposite the Maynard house; this Lane house opposite the tannery.

647. HITCHCOCK CELLARHOLES AND TANNERY: In 1815 Caleb Bellows sold to Ora M. Burk and Jacob W. Kendall, tanners, of Woodstock, Vt., an acre of land near the brook, north of road; 1816 Kendall sold out to Burk; 1918 Burk (Sally) to Oren Rawson of Alstead, to Ira Emerson. One won-



ders if the tannery showed a profit, judging by the changes in ownership. Nathaniel Vilas, Henry Slade, Samuel Mellish owned at times. Perley Emerson sold in 1839 to John P. Maynard who is said to have come from Holden, Mass. in 1836, perhaps leased until he bought 1839. He also owned the other land north of the road out of the Bellows tract and built a house next west of the tannery. His son Augustus had a house next west, both here 1858. This was a large white house, struck by lightning and burned about 1900. Lilacs mark the spot. This was known as Oakdale.

J. W. Prentiss says that Augustus Maynard "had a large building in which he carried on the wool pulling and tanning of sheep pelts, also doing farming on a small scale, but very efficiently." In January 1902 the tannery was pulled down, having outlived its usefulness. The foundations remain. The millpond was south of the road.

648. CLYDE L. STEVENS: In 1943 Clyde L. Stevens bought from Sydney D. Harris of Langdon what was the southeast corner of the Bellows tract southeast of the road plus a small piece which had been a part of the Hubbard-Jones farm adjacent along the road "near the pond and opposite the tannery". He built a house.

The east part of the Hubbard farm, south of Clyde Stevens, the other heirs sold to Daniel Hubbard in 1834; 1835 to John P. Maynard and Hiram N. King (Julia A.); 1835 to Charles L. Cooper of Langdon; 1837 to Asa Holman Jr. of Bolton, Mass.; 1840 to Benjamin Elwell (Harriet H.) of Langdon; 1844 to Samuel Waldo of Acworth. While Waldo owned it, it began to be referred to as a farm; sold 1849 to David Converse and Francis Phillips of Langdon south part; 1849 main farm (north part) to David Fisher, apparently continued to occupy for a time; Mary Fisher sold 1906 to John W. Prentiss. There is an open field here, where might be a cellarhole.

649. THOMAS C. MANN: Out of that part of the Atkinson strip east of the Bellows 100 acres and the Jones-Hubbard land, Levi Bellows bought 1795 the north part, 1796 Samuel Grant and Levi Bellows the south part. Most of this tract finally went with farms over the line in Alstead, or was just woodlots; no homesteads except the following in the northeast corner of Walpole.

In 1800 Levi Bellows sold to James Chandler of Alstead; 1803 to Nehemiah Chandler of Alstead (Abigail); 1810 north part to Oren Hall; 1811 to Thomas C. Drew; 1814 to Calvin Densmore the east 30 acres, to Hall the west part. In 1816 Densmore sold his land with buildings and



Hall his land to Shepard Marvin of Langdon; 1817 to Nehemiah Chandler of Langdon; 1831 to Benjamin Elwell; 1832 to Asa Holden II (Mary Ann); 1833 the two acres in the little corner northwest of the road, next to the Langdon line, to James Chandler; 1835 to Edwin Green; 1846 to Henry H. Mason of Springfield, Vt., with buildings; 1849 to John P. Maynard, to Benjamin B. Royce; 1854 to Hope Lathrop; 1855 to Daniel N. Brown who bought more land. The Brown family lived here, the son Benjamin selling 1912 to Morgan L. and Blanche A. Ellis of Rockingham, Vt.; 1913 to Frank D. Jones (Hattie S.); 1916 to Joseph Hodgkins; 1918 to Earle A. Howe of Claremont; 1918 to O. D. Parker; 1920 his estate to Charles S. Chandler; 1932 his estate to Eugene and Evelyn Mann; 1960 Thomas C. Mann. There were probably no buildings until about 1840.

## NORTH WALPOLE

Governor Benning Wentworth reserved for himself the 500 acres in the northwest corner of Walpole, extending south nearly to the White-light Plant (1962). Not having viewed the situation, he supposed the land lying nearest to the Great Falls might be the most valuable on account of the shad and salmon fisheries. To make the matter doubly sure he consulted Col. Bellows who honestly told him that the plot would be of little value to him, that it might make a good calf pasture, but nothing better. Suspecting the colonel of a little sharp practice, he decided to pitch his lot here. To this day it is spoken of as the "Governor's Calf Pasture."

The next strip (2,510 acres) from the river to the east line of the town, with south line about at the "little run of water" north of the Vilas Bridge, belonged to Benjamin Bellows. He willed it to his son Peter "600 acres of land in Walpole and lyeth above the Great Falls on Connecticut River . . . bounds west on river, north on Governor's farm, east on my own land and south on Col. Atkinson".

Next south was a strip of 2,028 acres which belonged to Col. Atkinson. At the river the south line was a short distance south of the last house on the river side of the highway.

The early Indian trail lay east of the river along the base of Fall Mountain. In 1762 a road was accepted "beginning at the Charlestown line where road is now made, running as the road is now. . . ." The road was surveyed in 1774, and at that time north of the packing plant a road led to Wright's Ferry. The course of the 1774 road is shown on the map.

December 3, 1789, Sylvanus Johnson bought of Peter Bellows land lying north of Governor's Brook. His first dwelling was a small two-room



structure that stood north of the brook on the north side of East Street near the corner of Main Street. It was the first house built in North Walpole north of the toll bridge. In later years he erected the second dwelling on the corner of Main Street. The two-room dwelling was at one time used as a school house, later torn down.

Sylvanus was the oldest son of James and Susanna Willard Johnson of Charlestown. August 30, 1754, at the age of six years, along with the rest of the family, he was captured by Indians and taken to Canada where he remained with the Indians three years. During this time he entirely forgot his native language and became almost a perfect Indian in nature, imbibing a love for the wild life and its peculiar attractions which he never forgot, and which colored all his subsequent years.

He married Susanna, daughter of Capt. Sylvanus and Jemima Willard Hastings of Charlestown, and they had six children, none of whom ever married. Two boys were drowned in the Connecticut River, while John, Betsey and Susan lived in the old home many years after the death of their parents. Sylvanus died 1832, his wife 1819.

"Uncle Vene", as he was familiarly called in his later years, always venerated the Indians and their customs, maintaining stoutly that they were a far more moral and upright race than were the whites. As an instance of Indian honor he would tell the story of his own redemption from captivity. After paying the ransom his white friends travelled a day's journey and encamped for the night. So homesick was little Sylvanus for his forest home that he stole away in the darkness and followed the trail back to the wigwams of his masters. In doing so he had to cross a river, swimming over with his clothes tied on his head. His Indian friends would not speak to him or recognize him in any way. They had received the money demanded for his ransom and he was no longer theirs. During his whole life he so much preferred the modes of Indian life to the prevalent customs of civilization that he often expressed regret that he was ever ransomed.

He related many hunting stories to the Chapin boys who took great pleasure in the friendship of their remarkable neighbor. He told them he was at one time surrounded by wolves on the plains at the foot of the mountains as he was returning from chopping wood. He heard them answering each other as they circled about him, and he counted seven as they one by one crept out of the woods. He prepared to meet them with his ax, his only weapon, but they were not very hungry and after a time drew off.

The young men about North Walpole and Bellows Falls counted it a



treat to be taken by Uncle Vene on a hunt. Often the old man would pretend to get lost almost in sight of home and keep the frightened and bewildered boys out all night in a shelter made in true Indian style.

Two of his children were drowned, William in 1804 in the eddy below the Falls. Phineas on November 18, 1823, started to do some threshing for a farmer in Vermont, walking across the river on the ice. Sometime later it was found he had not reached his destination, and his hat was discovered near a hole in the ice. Still his father refused to believe that he was dead.

When the young man's boy was brought to the surface, his father was standing near. He exclaimed, "That's him." He at once went home, shaved and dressed in his best suit. He seated himself in his great chair where he sat controlling his emotions in stolid dignity after the custom of an Indian chief.

He followed the example of the Indians in his love for "fire water". At one time he was crossing the river in his canoe, having indulged his appetite in the taverns at Bellows Falls. He was caught by a strong current and swept toward the dam. He was indignant because a neighbor saved him. When told that he would surely have gone over the dam, he asked, "Couldn't I have put out a foot and braced?" (*Hayes*)

When he rode his horse Narragansett to town and visited the taverns, his admirers, anxious to hear his stories, would treat him liberally. This resulted in his becoming quite helpless when it was time to go home. That he always arrived safely was owing to Narragansett's intelligent management of the situation. That he appreciated his faithful steed is shown by his will. By his side John Johnson listened to his father's last bequest:

"Nearing death I make partition  
of my goods as seemeth best.  
Token of my deep affection  
Unto you, my son, I give  
One bay mare called Narragansett  
For as long as she will live.  
Take good care of Narragansett,  
Shelter her from wind and rain,  
Let her range the hills in summer,  
Never stint her hay or grain."  
Long he lay and deeply pondered  
How by a division fair  
Betsey, John, and faithful Susan  
In his large estate might share.  
Words of wisdom and a blessing



To his son he would impart  
But his weary mind submitted  
To the dictate of his heart.  
"Take good care of Narragansett"  
Slow the pulse beat in his breast—  
"Take good care of Narragansett—  
And to hell with all the rest."

The son John was a respected and particular farmer, but "Uncle Johnny could putter all day in a peck measure and it wouldn't be full then."

In 1789 Peter Bellows sold to Sherburn Hale, son of Enoch, who built the bridge, the rest of his holdings here. Hale erected buildings west of the highway just south of Governor's Brook, the house being designed for a tavern. There were long sheds connected with it to shelter the droves of sheep, cattle and mules that passed through on their way from Canada to Boston. "It was woe to the beast that left the feed trough in search of better rations, as each of his mates kicked him soundly in the ribs as he passed behind them." This was later Jonathan Chapin's house, and stood for some time after the railroad was built, although the embankment came to the doorstep.

Up to 1810 North Walpole was largely a forest of pine and oak. Many of the stalwart pines bore the "Broad Arrow", sign of the English government showing that they had been selected for his majesty's use. In that year Levi Chapin Sr. came to the place with his son Nathaniel who together purchased (under form of lease for a term of years) 700 acres of the meadow and terrace lands now covered by the village. It was described as being "the whole farm where I (Hale) now live. . . . The Governor's right, so-called in said Walpole, excepting 100 acres at the west end which I have heretofore conveyed to Bellows, and also the Wentworth right, 200 acres," an aggregate of about 700 acres.

The Chapins agreed to pay for this property in ten years, they being permitted to cut enough timber to meet the yearly payments as they fell due. Old bills of sale show that they furnished the lumber for rebuilding the lower locks in the canal, various bridges at Hartford, Connecticut, the first Congregational Church at Springfield, Mass., the Immanuel Church at Bellows Falls, and many other contracts large for those early days. They owned a sawmill which was located on Governor's Brook back at the foot of the mountain, where all the sawing was done. About



1850 a second sawmill was built by Holland Allbee in what is now the village, near the pond at East Street.

In 1816 Levi Chapin Sr. purchased 300 acres more of Solomon Bellows adjoining the property first bought. The Chapins spent more time on their lumbering operations than their farming. In 1818, the terms of their lease having been fulfilled, the Chapins received a deed to their original farm. At that time the clearings had become pastures for cattle and sheep and the meadows a well-cultivated farm.

Levi Chapin transacted a large amount of business with Hall and Green of Bellows Falls, his boats that transported lumber downstream bringing back merchandise for this firm. In 1825 Levi Chapin Sr. and William Hall purchased a large timber tract in the White Mountains. While Mr. Chapin was away managing the cutting and marketing, his son Jonathan managed the farm and business here.

In 1817 Mr. Chapin and John Johnson were a committee of the school district to raise money and build the first schoolhouse on this side of the river. Until that year pupils had attended school in Bellows Falls.

Mr. Chapin was of an inventive turn of mind and having made some improvements in the primitive water wheels in use at that time, he went south in 1833 to dispose of his patents. In Virginia he fell ill with yellow fever and died. On the death of the father the lands in North Walpole went to his sons, Jonathan and Levi Jr. The home of Levi was in the old farmhouse at 68 Main Street, just north of the Walpole House (Mt. Kilburn Inn) until 1862 when he built his home on the hill, later occupied by his daughter, Mrs. A. F. Nims (now Aumand Realty).

Mr. Chapin was one of the first to banish liquor from his harvest fields. One year he had a workman named Aaron Mead who was a noted character of the day. He could not work without his customary libation, and one day hid his jug in a hay cock. Mr. Chapin saw him refreshing himself from it and called out, "Aaron, it will kill you." Aaron took another long draught from the jug. "Going to risk it," he replied. Mr. Chapin and his brother sold a portion of their farm near the foot of Mt. Kilburn to a man of good reputation, but were soon pained to see the liquor traffic carried on on the land they no longer controlled. This influenced Mr. Chapin to include in later deeds a clause forever prohibiting the sale of liquor on the premises.

Along the west side of the highway (Main Street), through his farm, Levi Chapin set a row of maple trees, one rod apart, and had commenced a similar row on the east side when the survey of the Sullivan railroad



cut through the line in two places. Mr. Chapin offered the railroad land if they would put their road far enough east to spare his trees, which they refused to do. A part of the trees remained, becoming very large, and were not cut down until 1900.

Mr. Chapin each winter made a road across his meadow from near his house to the river, and across the ice to Bellows Falls, for his own use. Naturally people coming from Charlestown turned in at this road, and as people from Walpole crossed the eddy on the ice, Mr. Tucker's bridge often paid small dividends in the winter. Mr. Tucker offered him a perpetual free pass through his bridge if he would close his road, which was accepted, and the good feeling between the two neighbors remained for many years. When the Rutland railroad was built, the west abutment of their bridge across the canal was placed where the Chapin road used to climb the Vermont bank, and Mr. Tucker then sued Mr. Chapin for six years unpaid bridge toll. The next winter Mr. Chapin again opened his road across the ice, coming into Bellows Falls by a new approach on the Vermont side a little way down the canal from the abutment. One morning one of the elaborately painted sign boards that had stood near the east end of the toll bridge was found attached to one of the big maples, where Mr. Chapin's road joined the highway, announcing to travelers that that was the way "To Bellows Falls, Saxtons River and Rockingham".

One spring the ice on the river was very thick and remained firm although the water had cracked it along the shores. One day Mr. Chapin started for Bellows Falls across the ice, and as he drove upon the ice it broke away from the shore. When partly across some men on the Vermont side hailed him, saying the ice was broken up on both sides. Knowing that he could not return, Mr. Chapin drove on, and having a spirited horse, the animal leaped the broken ice, struck his feet in the muddy bank and pulled himself and buggy to safety. Nathaniel Tucker heard of the accident at the toll bridge and flew about the square, calling loudly, "Levi is in the river, Levi is in the river, get a strong rope, boys, and pull him out."

Capt. Nathaniel Chapin served in the War of 1812 with the company that went from Walpole to Portsmouth in 1814. He was the first clerk of School District #2. He built the house at 68 Main Street and lived there until 1835 when he moved to Pine Meadow, Conn., where he went into business with his brother Hermon in the manufacture of mechanics' tools.

Jonathan Chapin owned the land later bounded by River and Main



Streets and the river, including the Connecticut River water power. In 1836 he sold this land and the water rights to George Billings who made preparations to utilize the power on a large scale. The undertaking was given up and the land reconveyed to Chapin. After his death it was sold at auction to William A. Russell.

There are many accounts of the wild animals coming down from Fall Mountain in the early days. They were principally bears, foxes, wolves, and deer, the later very abundant. William, son of Sherburne Hale, wrote: "As late as 1810 the bears used to come down the north end of Fall Mt. and eat corn. On one occasion a girl named Margaret Watson, passing just above the Chapin farm, discovered a bear in a shanty. She ran and notified the neighbors who rallied, but the bear escaped."

Rattlesnakes were plentiful on Fall Mountain. A number of men of the vicinity made a point of hunting them and extracting the oil which was valuable for medicinal use. Levi Chapin Jr., encountering them rather frequently, would kill them, then cut off the head very carefully and bury it, taking the body home to try out the oil. The skin and rattles were preserved as curiosities. One day his barefoot boy, Thomas, was racing with a school mate on the hill east of the stone school house. The other boy saw a large rattler crossing the road in time to stop, but Thomas could not, and took a flying leap over it. Such escapes were of frequent occurrence. It has been many years since one has been seen in this vicinity, probably due to the fairly frequent burning of the mountain after the building of the railroad.

The actual birth of North Walpole as a village may be said to date from 1872. In that year, two years after the water power of Bellows Falls began to be systematically used and workmen were needed in the mills, John McNamara, James Dorney, and John Brown, good specimens of Irish emigrants of those days, purchased of Levi Chapin most of the land lying south of the Catholic Church and west of the railroad as far as the river. They soon had comfortable homes and through the lands of these men was laid out the highway known as Church Street. For the next few years others of the same nationality followed their example and the population increased rapidly. In 1878 a Catholic Church was built and about the same time a store was established. The village had a post office a few years with Nathaniel Monroe as postmaster under Pres. Hayes, the office being kept in a store on Merchant Street run by a Mr. Lockwood, and later by Miss Ross in a house near the end of the Boston & Maine bridge. The office was soon discontinued because the service was better from the Bellows Falls office.



## FALL MOUNTAIN—MT. KILBURN

In 1849 Col. Roswell Shurtleff built the Island House at Bellows Falls. The railroads had just been built and there was hope of establishing a summer resort at the Falls. Many wealthy southern guests came for the season, while others stopped over on their way to the White Mountains. Considerable money was spent in providing excursion points and entertainment. A good carriage road was built to the summit of Fall Mountain and a sightly picnic and observation house built on Table Rock could be seen for many miles up and down the river, with its Grecian architecture and white pillars. This stood at an altitude of 1200 ft., 880 ft. above the eddy. All during the summer season carriages took guests twice each day to the top of the mountain. The summer business declined in the late '60's and the hotel was finally closed in 1887.

On Tuesday, September 23, 1856, the mountain east of the Falls was formally christened "Mt. Kilburn". Twenty-nine members of the Class of 1857 at Amherst arrived on the noon train, and early in the afternoon were joined by 15 seniors from Middlebury and five or six from Dartmouth as their guests. They were aided by Dr. Stearn, President of Amherst and the elder Dr. Hitchcock of Amherst, one of the most noted geologists of the time.

The Mountain House on Table Rock blew down in a gale New Year's night 1864 and was never rebuilt. The carriage road, built 1849 up through Chapin's pasture, became overgrown. It is now a footpath, except for the west end which is now Green Road.

Through the years the mountain burned over with fair frequency, fires started by locomotives on the railroad along the base, and by hunters—quite a sight at night.

## THE FARMS OF NORTH WALPOLE

The ELIAS OLCOTT FARM (later Solon) included some of the "Governor's Yard" and extended south to the turn in Rt. 12 near the gas tanks, the line being at right angles to Church Street.

The JOHNSON FARM Sylvanus Johnson bought from Peter Bellows south to Governor's Brook. The Johnsons added more land, mostly to the north on Fall Mountain, to a total of 393 acres when John Johnson sold to Holland Allbee in 1849. In 1855 he sold the north part of the farm (strip 30 rods wide) to J. E. Drury; 1867 to Israel Stowell (Achsah); 1871 to Oscar L. Perham who broke it up into house lots.

In 1864 Allbee sold the rest of the farm to J. D. Bridgman.



The HALE FARM Joshua Hale bought in 1791 from Benjamin Bellows 3rd. It lay south of Johnson, including down to the Atkinson strip; 1818 Sherburne Hale to Levi and Nathaniel Chapin. The Chapins and their heirs owned much of this part of Walpole for many years.

In 1858 there were seven houses, the stone school house, a grocery store, and a sawmill in North Walpole, all along what is now Main Street.

In 1877 there were 42 houses, eight of which were south of the toll bridge. The streets were Main, River, Church as far north as Governor's Brook, and Elm.

In 1892 there were 134 houses, a church, a store, an engine house, a sawmill and a chair shop. The following streets had been added: Vine, Center, Merchant, School, West, Pine, Spruce, Maple, East.

North Walpole's great growth came with the building of the railroad when the Irish settled here and with the harnessing of the water power of the river and the establishment of the paper mills at Bellows Falls when the Italians and Poles came.

## NORTH WALPOLE HOMESTEADS

### WEST END OF ATKINSON STRIP, SOUTH OF VILAS BRIDGE

The north corner Hale bought for the bridge. All the rest, west of the so-called Jonas Fairbanks Farm (which encompassed Drewsville, etc.), Jonathan Royce bought of Samuel Sparhawk in 1804; 1830 Nehemiah Royce sold the west 192 acres to John Robertson; 1834 to George Huntington; 1840 a half interest to Oliver Huntington; to James Jr. and Charles Hooper. The "Mountain Lot" remained in the Hooper family until 1951.

N1. THOMAS H. ASHCROFT: First house northwest of Cold River railroad crossing, between highway and Connecticut River. In 1873 James Hooper and Charles Hooper and George Huntington sold the southwest corner of the Mountain Lot, west of highway,  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre to Thomas McDonald who built a house here; 1919 his heirs to Nathaniel and Elizabeth Morrison; 1953 to her son by a previous marriage, Thomas H. Ashcroft. In 1941 the Morrisons deeded to the federal government an easement for the construction of a river gauging station.

N2. MAE PROUTY: Next north of Ashcroft, Michael Cudmore had erected a house when he bought the land here from the Hoopers in 1890 (1877 map shows house), all that the Hoopers then owned west of



the highway; 1897 to Town of Walpole; 1902 to Roscoe W. Beers; 1913 to Timothy Crimmins; 1940 his daughter Mary E. Crimmins to Lillian T. (Scott) Kenyon; 1940 to Donald C. Cram of Alstead; 1940 to Francis E. Bushway (Helen E.); 1944 to John Blake (Gertrude); 1944 to Mae Prouty. The house is unoccupied.

North of N2 the 1877 map shows the following houses, probably all on railroad land bought from owners of the Tucker Bridge 1847, out of Atkinson strip:

The first house, west side, J. Collins; the second, D. Delaney (spelled McLaney). The Dennis Delaney house was built by his father. Both were carried out by the 1927 flood.

Nearly opposite these houses were two others, the south one marked RR, the north M. Stack. Somewhat farther north, west side of highway were two more houses marked RR, and opposite the engine house two more with no name. A photograph shows the two latter houses. All are gone except the Stack house.

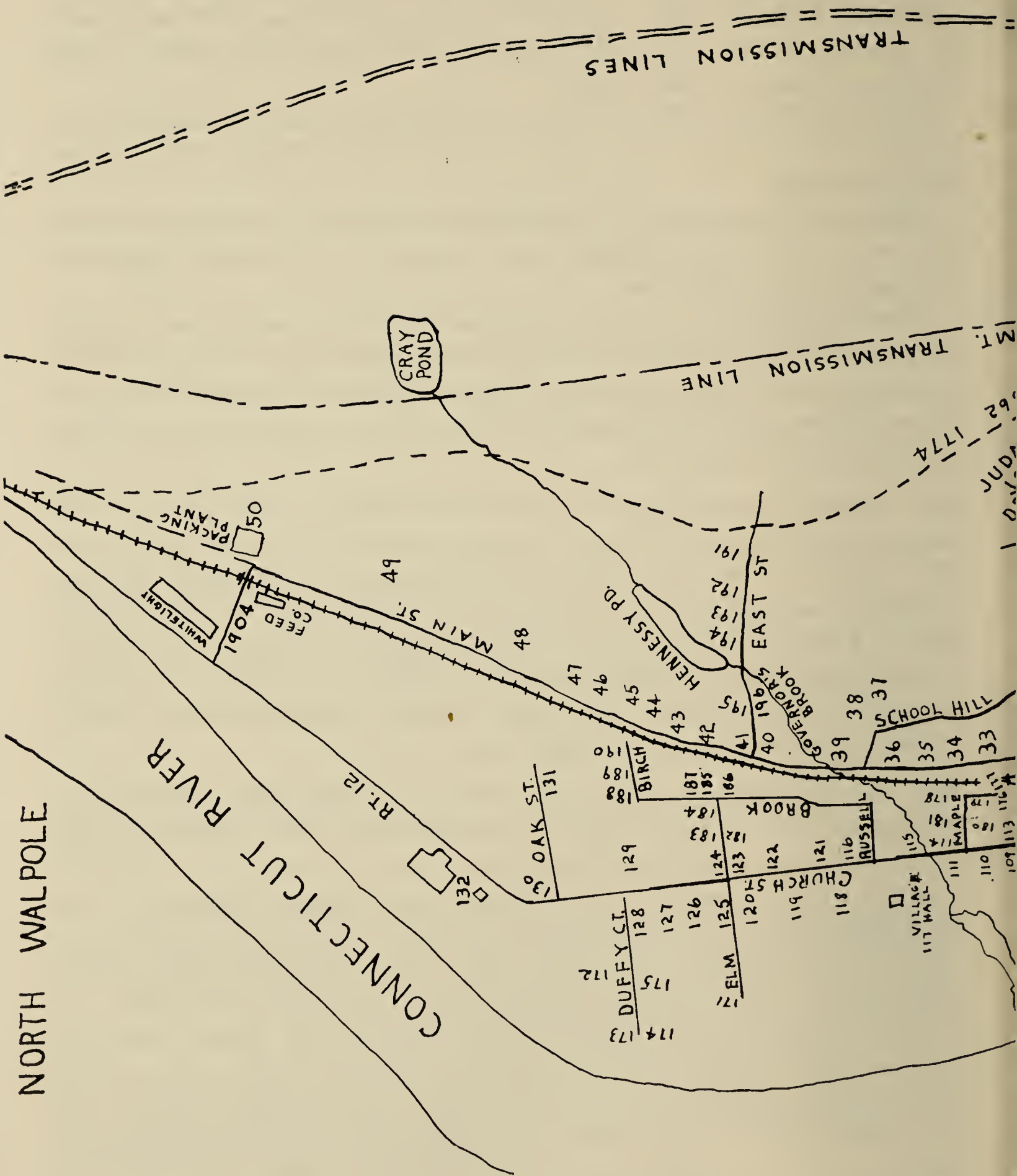
N3. FRANK WYMAN: Between railroad and highway. This house is old, perhaps older than the railroad. The land seems to have been leased from the railroad by the more recent owners of the house. In 1891 Michael Stack was occupying. In 1935 Lizzie Stack Tyrrell, then of Rockingham, sold to Edward C. Lamphere; 1939 to I. Louise Lynch (married Albert O. DeMange); 1946 to Charles N. Lynch (Doreen V.); 1948 to I. Louise and Albert O. DeMange; 1959 heirs to Frank Wyman (Emily) "all interest in land leased from B&M Railroad. . . ."

N4. WALPOLE BRIDGE HOTEL (gone now): In 1783 George Atkinson of Portsmouth sold to Enoch Hale of Rindge for £27 the northwest corner of the Atkinson strip from Peter Bellows' land on the north to "a little south of the flat land near to the Fishing Bank", estimated about 6 acres. In 1790 the Hales lost the bridge to Frederick Geyer, but apparently not the land and mansion east of the bridge. In 1794 Joshua Hale sold to Mary Bellows (Mrs. Benjamin Bellows 3rd) "Land near Great Falls . . . about one rod north from foundation of old Potash House (south of present Vilas Bridge); runs northerly by said road 80 rods . . . also north of the bridge to a little run of water, then northeast by said run to a small bridge on a bye road; then southwest by said bye road to the County Road . . . with a large dwelling house, barn and shed". In 1796 she sold to Jonathan Grout, he to Frederick W. Geyer.

Hayes described the mansion thus: "It was built soon after the bridge by Col. Hale and it was taken down when the railroad was built in 1848.



NORTH WALPOLE









The timber was used in erecting houses owned by John B. Morse on School Street and that recently owned by Dr. F. H. O'Connor on Green Street (1903). It was really a mansion as seen in the picture, high above the bridge, the bottom of the cellar on a level with the ridge pole of the bridge. It was three stories high, with two wings, the main hall in the form of a cross, north and south doors opening onto broad piazzas two stories high on the fronts of the ells, the west door onto a high pillared porch. It was beautifully landscaped in front, with stairs leading down to the bridge. There was a garden on the south, barns on the north. The mansion stood on the site of the brick water house of the B&M Railroad."

This advertisement appeared in the *Farmers Museum*: Walpole Bridge Hotel "The subscriber informs the public that the large and elegant house at Bellows Falls, lately built by F. W. Geyer Esq. is ready for the accommodation of travellers. As a retreat from the feverish air of a city, or as an agreeable temporary retirement from the confusion and bustle of the town, its romantic scenery and its pure air render it peculiarly eligible. Punctual attendance will constantly be given, and the best provisions and liquors will always be kept. Thomas Alker, Walpole, August 5, 1799."

From this it might be inferred that Geyer rather than Hale built the mansion. It may be that Hale built and Geyer enlarged or remodelled it. It was later known as the Tucker Mansion (Tucker was Geyer's son-in-law). The Cheshire Railroad Company bought the property in 1847; razed it to make room for railroad buildings.

## OUT OF JONATHAN CHAPIN LAND

N5. JOSEPH SLOMBA—First house north of round house west of highway: In 1852 Jonathan Chapin leased this land to Addison K. Adams who built house; 1857 to Lucia Ann Adams; 1864 Addison K. and Lucia Ann Adams to Cheshire Railroad; 1893 to James Hennessey; 1913 to Wiktorya Suleski (Adam); 1923 to Joseph and Blanche Slomba.

N6. PHILIP TOLARO—East of highway: In 1856 Jonathan Chapin sold to John Walker of Langdon the house here, then occupied by C. W. Walker; 1862 to Calvin W. Walker (Emily S.); 1865 to Cheshire Railroad; 1891 to Frederick O. C. Doolittle; 1891 to Barbara Doolittle; 1919 her heirs to Frank H. Moriarty; 1924 to Philip and Mary Tolaro. This house was a grocery store 1858, a saloon when the town went dry.

N7. WALTER SOMBRIC—Red house top of hill west of highway: This was



out of land Addison K. Adams sold to Cheshire Railroad 1865; 1893 to William Ashcroft; 1922 to Paul and Sophie Sombric; 1952 to their son Walter.

N8. HELEN, FRANK AND DOMONIC KISSELL—High on hillside east of highway: In 1906 Mary N. and Almon I. Bolles sold land here to Leland J. Royce (Eva M.) who built a pretentious house which later burned; 1911 to Nicholas Frede; 1915 to Hattie Verette; 1922 to Joseph and Katie Peneck; 1929 Bellows Falls Trust Company sold to Herbert H. Buswell; 1932 to Philip J. Kissell (Kisiel) (wife Rose); 1956 to present owners. After Royce there was only a small house here, burned 1913. Kissells built the present house, using materials from the old boathouse down at Pearl Place.

N9. FRANK W. RATTRAY—Old stone schoolhouse, "The Jug": In 1850 Jonathan Chapin sold lot here to District #2 for a schoolhouse; 1881 to James Hennessey; 1938 heirs to Ann N. Hennessey; 1943 to Howard and Veronica Whitcomb; 1951 to Frank W. Rattray.

N10. STANLEY PICKUL: In 1944 Bolles sold to the Whitcombs the lot next north; 1951 to Rattray; 1953 to Stanley and Stephen Pickul who built house.

N11. JAMES E. BRENNAN—Old Whiting Creamery building: In 1919 the Bolles sold land here to C. Brigham Company, Cambridge, Mass.; 1923 to Whiting Milk Company (John K. Whiting was treasurer of Brigham Co.). They operated a milk plant here for many years, receiving and shipping Grade A milk. In 1955 James E. and Ruth S. Brennan bought the plant and converted it into a machine shop.

#### NORTH FROM RAILROAD CROSSING, WEST OF MAIN STREET

In 1877 the heirs of Jonathan Chapin sold to William Russell and James H. Williams five acres south from River Street and west from Main Street to the river. What is included now in the south four house lots they sold in 1879 to the Ryans—the south two lots to John and Ann, the next two north to their son William. In 1889 their sons John and William sold to Nellie A. Riley. John had a house here in 1877.

N12. WILLIAM BASHAW: Margaret M. Riley had a house on the south lot (leased), married John J. Brosnahan (D. W. Riley shown here on 1892



map); 1919 to Nellie A. Riley all rights to land and buildings; 1923 Nellie A. and Daniel W. Riley to Eugene Lewis; 1936 to Charles H. Kinson of Charlestown; 1937 to William and Eva Bashaw.

N13. JOSEPH R. WAYSVILLE: The next lot north remained in the Riley family until Helen Riley Desroches sold 1943 to the present owner. Rileys built the house (1892-93). Joseph Riley got out stone up on Fall Mountain, which he sold by the perch for house foundations in North Walpole.

N14. FRANCIS J. REAGAN: The next lot north William Ryan sold 1886 to Bernard J. Riley (Nellie F.) (house on 1892 map); 1918 to William T. McGuirk; 1952 his widow to the present owners. Riley built the house.

N15. JOSEPH BIXBY: In 1880 Ryan sold the north part of his lot to James Hartnett in whose family it remained until 1959, then to present owners. House on 1892 map.

N16. EDWARD W. NELSON: This part of the five acres Williams' heirs sold 1885 to Russells; 1910 other heirs to Richard S. Russell and Dudley P. Rogers; 1912 to Bellows Falls Hydro-Electric Corporation; 1941 to Patrick H. Hartnett; 1958 to Edward W. and Natalie E. Nelson who built the house.

N17. JOSEPH TRYBULSKI: Russell and Williams sold this lot 1879 to Thomas Tole who built the house for Frank Tole (on 1892 map); 1926 Frank R. Tole sold his half to Sarah E. Tole; 1958 Grace Fisk inherited, sold 1958 to Trybulski.

N18. MARY J. KILLEEN: House on corner—Russell heirs sold lot 1901 to Daniel W. Riley; 1931 heirs to Mary J. Killeen.

N19. MT. KILBURN INN (WALPOLE HOUSE)—MARY J. KILLEEN: North corner Main and River Streets. In 1873 Nathaniel Monroe to Mary E. and Charles W. Tole; 1888 exchanged with Harriet A. Russell for Moore property south of Cold River; 1888 to George A. Brown; 1888 to William L. Crowley; 1894 to Barbara Doolittle; 1901 to Mary J. Killeen. Toles had a house here by 1877.

N20. MARY J. KILLEEN: Little house north of Inn. From here north between the railroads Levi Chapin sold 1869 to George E. Dennis; 1872 Anna A. Dennis sold a strip 76½ ft. wide from Main Street west 350 ft. to George E. Dennis along her south line; 1884 the east 68 ft. to James Barrett; 1893 an addition on the north side sold to Barbara Doolittle;



1916 heirs to Mary J. Killeen. This was Levi Chapin's house prior to 1862, Nathaniel Chapin built. Dennis home place.

N21. ANGELO V. CETTO: This was part of the Dennis property, then Pierce, Brennan, O'Brien. Ellen O'Brien Drew sold 1960 to Angelo V. Cetto who built the new house. There was a 1½ story two-tenement house here as late as 1910, burned while Tom Kenney's father lived here. On 1892 map as J. J. Pierce.

N22. JOHN W. LLOYD: South corner of Main and Vine Streets—In 1879 Anna A. Dennis sold to Charles F. Dennis (Julia E.) the strip next north of her homestead lot; 1882 east portion on Main Street to Cornelius Sullivan; 1921 heirs to Jeremiah Carroll (Mary); 1938 Anna M. Carroll became joint tenant; 1955 sold to her son John W. Lloyd (Anna M.). Probably Dennis built the house. On 1892 map as C. Sullivan.

N23. JOHN PONEK: North corner Vine and Main Streets—In 1869 George and Anna A. Dennis sold to Jefferson Wilson the first two lots north of Vine Street, from Main to Center Street (then called George Street); 1898 son George J. to Henry H. Davis; 1903 to Patrick E. Griffin and Daniel H. Cray. Jefferson Wilson built the house.

#### EAST SIDE MAIN STREET AND RAILROAD

N24 and N25. In 1893 Cynthia M. Nims sold to William and Mary Davis lot with land and buildings on east side of Main Street opposite Jefferson Wilson's, south line in line with his, 70 ft. frontage. (House on 1892 map as W. Davis.) Mary E. Davis willed the property to Mary Kenneally and Maurice Costin. In 1951 Mary Kenneally and Julia L. Costin divided the property, Mrs. Kenneally taking the red house in southeast corner of the lot (N24) and Mrs. Costin the tall gray house on the street (N25). Mrs. Kenneally sold 1951 to David Costin (Carrita).

N26. MARY MARGARET CURTIN and JULIA C. O'CONNELL: In 1897 Cynthia M. Nims sold house lot to James Hankard; 1927 to Michael Curtin, now his daughters.

N27. DANIEL R. CROWLEY: In 1897 Cynthia M. Nims sold house lot to Richard Long, now his daughter Mary Madeline and husband Daniel Crowley.

N28. CLARENCE HOSLEY: In 1945 Mary N. Bolles sold this place to Charles M. Royce Jr.; 1946 to Howard R. and Mary A. Johnson; 1948



south part of lot on Main Street to William J. McLaughlin who built the house about 1954; 1962 widow Catherine T. to Clarence and Mary E. Hosley.

N29. ATWELL J. GRIGNON: In 1898 Cynthia M. Nims sold the lot next north to Patrick Reardon, now his daughter Catherine M. and her husband Atwell J. Grignon.

N30. CHARLES ROYCE JR.: In 1945 Mary N. Bolles sold to Charles M. Royce Jr. what had not already been sold south of the road to the new Johnson Development—Mt. View Road—and the land of the Johnson Development; 1946 to Howard R. Johnson. In 1946 Royce bought back a house lot next north of Grignon, built a house.

#### NORTH FROM MT. VIEW ROAD

N31. HEALY: In 1869 Levi Chapin sold to Charles McCarthy of Mt. Holly, Vermont. The house had burned. (Samuel Gordon owned 1839-69.) This was northwest corner of Levi Chapin's land on the east side of Main Street. In 1872 McCarthy sold the south part of the lot where the house had burnt to Edward Moran and in 1876 to Moran "my homestead where I now live." It is still in the family, having descended through Ellen Moran Healy, now belongs to her daughters Margaret, Catherine and Ellen. House there 1877, 1892.

N32. FITZGERALD: In 1873 Charles McCarthy sold the northwest corner of his lot on Main Street with dwelling house to Alphonso Labelle; 1874 to John Sheridan (Labelle resided here). Sheridan bought the back part of the lot from McCarthy; 1882 to Van Ness F. Williams; 1886 to Martin A. Ross (house on 1892 map); 1895 to Patrick Fitzgerald; 1929 heirs to Elizabeth Fitzgerald; 1935 to Elizabeth, Mary E., Josephine M. and Alice Fitzgerald. This house is way up on the bank on road to school, probably Williams built. Sheridan had house 1877 and 1892, may have burned 1914.

#### OUT OF JONATHAN CHAPIN FARM

N33. EMMA L. BUSHWAY: In 1869 Jonathan Chapin sold his 79-acre farm to Mary Jane Smith (Nelson C.). (They had a house somewhere here 1877.) In 1869 a house lot here sold to Matthew Tole, followed by his daughter Mary A. Tole Wieber; 1932 her widower Charles to daughter Emma L. Wieber Bushway (George). House here by 1877, on 1892 map.



N34. JOSEPH F. BUSHWAY: In 1874 Nelson C. Smith sold the next lot north to Jeremiah Leach; 1887 to William E. Clark; 1893 to Mary A. Wieber south part of lot; 1946 to Joseph F. Bushway. House here by 1893.

N35. GEORGE H. PIPER: Up on bank—In 1895 William E. Clark sold the next north part of the lot (land and buildings) to Mrs. Ida R. Brown (John); 1898 to William E. Hayes; descended through Elizabeth M. Stapleton to Katherine M. Lozowski; 1961 to George H. and Vera O. Piper. House here by 1895.

N36. CARROLL E. LEAR: Up on bank, opposite underpass. North part of William E. Clark lot. In 1903 Clark sold to Sullivan Company Railroad in connection with the elimination of the grade crossing near here; 1921 land and buildings to James J. Keefe; 1944 to Albert W. and Georgiana G. Moreau; 1958 to Carroll E. and Gloria M. Lear. Buildings here by 1903.

N37. JOSEPH T. BIXBY: On east side of School Hill Road. In 1923 Margaret Kiniry (widow, from estate of William H. Kiniry) sold to Enoch Bowe all of the Kiniry tract here not deeded to the Lloyds; 1953 his children George P. Bowe and Appelonia Barry sold this house lot to Joseph T. and Anita R. Bixby, new house.

N38. JOHN B. LLOYD: What they still owned of the Jonathan Chapin farm the Smiths sold in 1887 to Fall Mountain Paper Company; 1893 to William A. Russell; 1901 heirs to William H. Kiniry; 1920 to John B. and Mary Kiniry Lloyd. House is on 1892 map.

N39. JOHN B. LLOYD: Part of the same property as N37. Daughter Margaret Wright has now.

#### OUT OF HOLLAND ALLBE FARM SOLD TO JABEZ D. BRIDGMAN 1864

N40. EDWARD REARDON: In 1881 Bridgman sold to Michael Keough; 1904 to Patrick J. Riordan; 1938 to son Edward. Bridgman had house here 1877, burned May 11, 1892 while Keough owned.

N41. MICHAEL J. O'BRIEN: Little white house, faces East Street, north side. In 1870 Bridgman sold to Marshall A. Davis (Rebecca P.); 1881 to Daniel O'Brien, to Mary A. Mansfield (John W.); 1882 to George A. Brown; 1889 part to Clark Chase; 1890 to John B. Morse; 1891 to Michael O'Connell; 1903 heirs to Andrew J. McCarthy; 1913 to Pasquale and



Theresa Farnelli; 1917 to John and Jane O'Brien, still in family. This is the oldest house in North Walpole, the Holland Allbe house, earlier Johnson. On 1892 map. This was at one time an inn, a stage stop. There was a barn and a great watering trough.

N42. TEKLA PIWOWAR: The next north part of his lot George Brown sold 1887 to Allison J. Parker; 1887 to Clark Chase; 1888 to John Hogan; 1910 heirs to Jeremiah and Mary Carroll; 1924 to Andrew and Tekla Piwowar. In November 1887 George A. Brown's house, occupied by Leon Colburn, burned, probably here. Probably Clark Chase built new house 1888. On 1892 map.

N43. LEO TALBOT: Northernmost part of George Brown lot, he sold 1884 to Frank Whitman; 1889 to Mrs. Maggie McDonnell, in the family until 1951; estate of David Donovan to Leo and Sarah Teresa Talbot. Frank Whitman may have built the house. On 1892 map as J. McDonnell.

N44. JERRY MOYNIHAN: In 1870 Bridgman sold here to Harriett (Stillman) and Hattie M. Buss; 1873 to James S. Hunt (Myra L.); 1877 to John W. Lockwood (Annie E.); 1881 to George A. Brown (Rollin Booth leasing); 1881 to Michael O'Connor; 1888 to August F. Winnervesser; 1889 to Millard F. Cook; 1901 to Jerry Moynihan. J. Hunt house here 1877, Cook on 1892 map.

N45. ANGELO W. BALDASARO: In 1871 Bridgman sold to Cornelius Sullivan; 1895 heirs to George A. Bruce of South Charlestown; 1931 his son to William Dombroski; 1950 to Angelo W. and Beatrice M. Baldasaro. Sullivan had house here 1877 and 1892.

OUT OF NORTH PART OF HOLLAND ALLBE FARM,  
SOLD TO JOSEPH E. DRURY, TO ISRAEL STOWELL,  
TO OSCAR PERHAM

N46. In 1874 Perham sold a lot here to Vira A. Harwood; 1889 Harwoods to John J. Fitzgerald (Annie); 1894 to Emil Exner; 1906 heirs to Mary Exner; 1910 to Angelo and Letizzia Capabianca; 1955 to Belinda Grippo. East part of lot belonged to Felix McCabe 1891-1917. The house burned Jan. 9, 1926. Now a small white house south of old site, rented.

N47. ERNEST J. AUMAND SR.: Perham sold 1881 to Lena M. Buss (Martin J.); 1885 south part to John Carroll; 1914 widow Mary A. to John Owens (Signe); widow's estate sold 1959 to Ernest J. Aumand Sr. Perham had house here 1877, Carroll 1892.



N48. J. H. DUNNING CORPORATION: In 1887 north part of lot Lena M. Buss sold to Charles H. Brown; 1891 to James M. Randall (Mary A.); 1895 to Barbara Doolittle; 1903 heirs to William E. and Emma Ruttenberg; 1917 to John Owens; 1919 with reservations to Green Manufacturing Corporation; 1946 to Green Company, box manufacturing plant on the premises; 1962 J. H. Dunning Corporation. The company has another plant on the west side of Church Street. Brown had a house here 1892.

#### OUT OF SOLON OLCOTT FARM

N49. EUGENE CRAY: House, oil tanks, etc. Fall Mountain Paper Company had 1887 from Olcott Farm 225 acres; 1893 to William A. Russell; 1907 Richard S. Russell and Dudley P. Rogers to William H. Kiniry; 1915 to Eugene P. Cray. Known as Russell farm, Olcott had house here 1877, Paper Company 1892. Dorr Adams had farm here. There used to be a ball field here where the gas tanks are.

N50. PACKING PLANT, NORTH WALPOLE REALTY COMPANY: North of what Kiniry sold to Eugene Cray 1915, in 1908 one acre to Stephen J. Cray; 1926 Stephen J. and Eugene P. Cray to P. L. Stickney of Albany, New York; 1933 foreclosed; 1943 Charles S. Cray to Vermont Packing Company (more than the one acre); 1950 to North Walpole Realty Company. The Crays built the packing plant about 1910. Stephen did the butchering and Eugene the selling.

Frederick Geyer had buildings near the north end of the field north of the packing plant, there having been a house as late as 1852. This was the Governor's Farm. In 1805 and 1807 bought by Sylvanus Johnson; 1827 Katharine Geyer Tucker to Elias Olcott. There was a farm house in 1820 east of the railroad at Dutchman's Crossing, occupied by Sampson Reed, later Solon Olcott, a bachelor who never wore an overcoat, but always a high silk hat, except that when he ate he set it beside him; when he slept, on the bedpost. This house was supposed to be haunted. In 1821 school was held here.

#### BETWEEN THE RAILROADS FROM SOUTH TO NORTH

That part south of River Street belonged to Jonathan Chapin (leased to Nathaniel Monroe beginning 1868). North of River Street belonged to Levi Chapin. In 1862 he sold a strip next north of River Street, 5.5 rods wide on Main Street, to Nathaniel Monroe; also a tapering piece along the west branch of the railroad, as far north as to include the place



next to the railroad on the north side of Merchant Street. The rest of the tract between the railroads he sold 1869 to George E. and Anna A. Dennis. By court order what had not already been sold was awarded to Anna A. Dennis.

#### RIVER STREET WEST TO EAST: NATHANIEL MONROE STRIP

N51. WALTER J. WARYAS: East corner of Vine Street—In 1878 Monroe sold to his son-in-law, James H. Heald; 1896 widow Anna E. Heald Kibby (second husband George L. Kibby) to Michael and Alice Dalton Bowen; 1904 to Michael Moynihan and Patrick Bowen; 1920 to Michael and Alice J. Moynihan; 1946 she to Henry J. and Katherine E. Cray; 1955 to Walter J. and Marjorie F. Waryas. Heald had a house here 1892.

N52. JOHN S. SLOMBA: In 1873 Monroe sold to Elbert A. Prouty; 1875 to Lee Prouty (had a house here 1877); 1879 to Emeline A. Reed; 1899 to Mary E. Taylor; 1945 Richard D. Taylor to John Joseph and Demarize Virginia Slomba. Monroe had a shop, shed, hot house, hot beds on this lot. Mrs. Taylor was a woman supposed to have been of German nobility, very clever and capable. Mrs. Reed had a house here 1892.

N53. KANE & HEALY: In 1878 Monroe sold to Samuel Fetterman; 1880 to Patrick Marlboro Jr.; 1883 to Patrick O'Brien; 1896 to Mrs. Mary Murphy; 1911 to Michael Murphy; 1913 to William H. Kiniry; 1941 to Mary E. Lloyd (from estate of Margaret Kiniry); 1945 to Nelson P. Buskey (Fannie B.); 1946 to Freemond B. and Eleanor G. Champney; 1948 to Michael F. Kane and James B. Healy. It is a beauty shop now. Al Godsoe's saloon was here. O'Brien had a house here 1892.

N54. MARGARET J. KINIRY: In 1873 Monroe sold to Addison K. Adams (had a house here 1877); 1888 to Barbara Doolittle; 1893 to Michael H. Murphy; 1913 to William H. Kiniry. This was the old Kiniry homestead. In the basement there was, years ago, a saloon with a red Pippin apple on the door; later a laundry. In 1942 sold to Ronald J. Lloyd (from town for taxes); 1943 to Malcolm D. Kiniry; 1944 to Margaret J. Kiniry. In 1913 this was Michael Murphy's Hotel Property. Mrs. Doolittle had a house here 1892.

N55. JOHN J. CLEARY AND ANNA E. PARKER: Next east of Center Street—In 1913 Michael Murphy sold to Michael H. and Andrew J. Meany; 1931 to Michael H. Meany; 1943 to Raymond A. and Veronica E. Fournier;



1950 to present owners. This was originally the woodshed of the house next west. The cellar was on the street level with stone steps up to the first floor. Mike Murphy's saloon was in the basement. There was an alley through to Center Street (before the street was cut through), known as the Cubby Hole.

#### CENTER STREET, EAST SIDE, SOUTH TO NORTH

N56 (see N20). In 1884 George E. Dennis sold to Patrick P. O'Brien a lot here, still in the family, house here 1892.

N57. PATRICK GALWAY: In 1879 Anna A. Dennis sold to Charles F. Dennis; 1882 to Richard Murray; 1903 to Dennis Brennan; 1917 estate to Patrick Galway (Hannah). Murray had a house here 1892.

N58. HAROLD O'BRIEN: In 1884 Anna A. Dennis sold to Anna Kane (Patrick); in 1886 more to the south; 1906 to Michael Kane; 1915 to Alexander and Mary Sandomagy; 1952 estate to Harold and Jean R. O'Brien. Patrick Kane had house here 1892.

N59. ELLEN O'BRIEN DREW: (No one living here)—In 1884 George E. Dennis sold to Patrick O'Brien (Ellen, known as Nellie); 1950 Anne O'Brien to Ellen O'Brien Drew.

#### NORTH OF THE EAST PART OF VINE STREET, EAST OF CENTER STREET

These lots were numbered from Vine Street north, each lot 60 feet on Center Street, running through to the railroad (or Main Street).

N60. In 1869 George Dennis sold to Jefferson Wilson the first two lots; 1898 his son George J. to Henry H. Davis who had a drugstore here; 1903 to Patrick E. Griffin and Daniel H. Cray; 1920 to Cray; 1936 Vermont Savings Bank to John Poněk (Madelen). On the corner Griffin had a bottling house in 1907, "Term of lease 5 years at \$180 per year. . . . If license to sell liquor not obtained, then lease becomes void." Poněk took this building down. In the building next north, opposite Merchant Street, there was in 1907 the "Red Cross Drug Store", probably built by Jefferson Wilson by 1877.

N61. FRANCIS HOGAN: (LOT #3)—In 1879 George E. Dennis sold to Nancy E. Lawton (Geo. F.); 1880 to James Brennan; 1902 John Brennan (Catherine) of Lebanon to Michael Dalton (Bridget); 1905 to Patrick Dalton;



1906 to Steven and Mary Hogan, now Francis Hogan. Brennan had house 1892.

In 1872 George E. Dennis sold the lots to the north to Jabez D. Bridgman. He sold some of the lots before becoming financially embarrassed, Henry Lane taking over the remainder in 1886.

N62. WALTER JANIAC: In 1872 Bridgman sold his first lot on the south to Michael O'Connor; 1918 heirs to Anthony (Toni) Jermacz; 1921 to Walter and Petronela Janiak. O'Connor had house here 1877, 1892.

N63. ANTHONY JACKOWSKI: In 1873 Bridgman sold to John Brown (Honora S.); 1885 to Flora I. Judd (married Smith); 1888 to John B. Judd; 1911 Bertha Judd Crimmins to Jacob and Frances Damaziak; 1937 to Anthony and Helen Jackowski. Judd had house here 1892.

N64. JOSEPH BALDASARO: In 1880 Bridgman sold to Patrick Sullivan; 1884 Margaret Sullivan to James Sullivan; 1903 James P. and Margaret Sullivan of Rutland, Vermont, to Patrick J. and Helen A. Tyman; 1924 to Anthony (Toni) and Martha Jarniacz; 1933 to Mary Wolfe (married McGreen, resided East Orange, N. J.); 1944 to Guy and Mary Baldasaro; 1947 to Generose (Joseph) and Louise Baldasaro. Sullivan had house here in 1892.

N65. JOHN HENRY KENNEY: Two lots out of Bridgman from Dennis. In 1906 Daniel Connors bought next south of Ratchford from Bellows Falls Savings Institute; 1913 to Elizabeth Sullivan Connors. Next south Patrick Sullivan had from Bridgman in 1876; 1903 heirs to Margaret Sullivan; 1913 to Lizzie Sullivan Connors (Elizabeth); 1913 both lots to Patrick Kenney; 1950 to John Henry Kenney. Mrs. Patrick Sullivan had house here 1892.

The Dombroskis, next north, had three lots, all out of what Bridgman had from George E. Dennis 1872.

N66. The first lot on the south Bridgman sold 1880 to James A. Trotter, took back, sold 1885 to Patrick Ratchford; 1910 to William Dombroski. Ratchford had a house here 1892.

N67. From the Ratchford lot north to the railroad junction of lines, Henry C. Lane (trustee for Bridgman property) sold 1892 to William E. Clark; 1901 south part to William Dombroski. In 1922 Johanna Dombroski bought north to the railroad from Mrs. Lane. In 1926 Johanna Dombroski sold all to Joseph Baranowski and John Karnaciewicz; latter



bought out former; 1951 Karnaciewicz to his sons Chester W. and Bernard B. The Dombroski family went by the name of Duffy. They started a Polish bakery in the building on the east side of the lot, next to the railroad.

North of the Dombroski-Karnaciewicz buildings Cornelius Crowley, a conductor on the railroad, had a shanty, partly burned, only lilacs remain. In 1877 Mrs. Patrick Foley was here, at one time John Haley.

Up here in the point the Crescent Bottling Company unloaded their beer from freight cars, teamed it down to the bottling plant, corner Vine and Center Streets.

Here there used to be a trestle upward of 15 ft. high. The coal cars were given a good start on the track from the north, and if the momentum was properly calculated, the car made the grade. Once one went over the end. Until the coal pocket was built at the round house in 1914, the engines were coaled here.

#### CENTER STREET, WEST SIDE, SOUTH TO NORTH

The first three places are out of the strip that Anna A. Dennis sold to George E. Dennis who sold to George A. Brown:

N68. DENNIS AND FRANCIS GRIFFIN: In 1888 Brown sold to Amine Lovell (Leverett T. 2nd); 1889 to John J. Pierce; 1910 to Dennis Brennan; 1919 estate to Dennis and Francis Griffin. Two story, two tenement house.

N69. JOHN AND EDWARD KOLESNIK: Part of former John J. Pierce estate—In 1888 Anna A. Dennis to John J. Pierce; 1919 Pierces to Michael and Mary Curtin; 1919 to William Kolesnik; 1955 to present owners.

N70. MICHAEL MAHONEY: Southwest corner Center and Vine Streets—In 1919 the Pierces sold this part of their property to Michael and Josephine Mahoney.

N71. ANTHONY AUGUSTINO: In 1881 Anna Dennis sold to Daniel W. Brosnahan a lot from Merchant Street south 132 ft., 181½ ft. deep. In 1882 he sold the east part of the lot to George A. Brown. The south part of this strip (50 ft.) Brown sold 1882 to Allen J. Brown; 1888 to William L. Crowley, to George A. Brown; 1889 to Lyman Hayes; 1890 to John J. Pierce. Brennan's saloon was in the basement here.

The north part of the strip George A. Brown sold 1882 to Edson X. Pierce; 1883 to George A. Brown; 1884 to Helen M. Fitton (came to be known as the Fitton place); 1888 to George Sparhawk Hill; 1892 to



Helen M. Fitton; 1892 to John J. Pierce, known as Pierce Block 1898. In 1906 Pierce heirs sold both lots to Dennis Brennan; the north building burned Dec. 12, 1910, a large building, barbershop in basement, tenements above; 1918 estate to Dennis and Michael Griffin and Catharine Landers; 1918 to Anthony and Koustoutz Augustino, still in family. In 1892 Hill had a house north corner of lot.

#### NORTH OF MERCHANT STREET, WEST OF CENTER STREET

N72. JOHN B. NACHAJSKI: In 1876 Anna A. Dennis sold first lot to Lorenzo D. Lockwood; 1888 to Edson X. Pierce; 1901 to Patrick E. Griffin; 1922 estate to Mike Nachajski.

In 1879 Anna A. Dennis sold to George E. Dennis the land now included in the next three places to the north.

N73. ANDREW MEANY ET AL.: In 1887 George E. Dennis sold to Lorenzo D. Lockwood; 1888 to Edson X. Pierce; 1888 to Jerry Moynihan; 1920 Michael Moynihan to James and Mary Meany; 1948 widow Mary to Andrew and William Meany; now Andrew and heirs. J. Moynihan house here 1892.

N74. EDWARD G. TOLE: In 1888 George E. Dennis sold to Edward G. Tole; 1914-27 Edward B. Tole owned. Tole was a mailman. Tole house here 1892.

N75. JOHN PONEK: In 1889 George E. Dennis to Patrick Fitzgerald; 1911 to Johanna Dombroski (William); 1917 to John J. and Margaret Moore; 1929 to John Sr. and William Minogue; 1948 William to John and Magdaline Ponck. Two tenement house occupied by Walter and Margaret Hearne and Charles O'Brien.

N76. MAURICE J. HOULIHAN: In 1874 Anna A. Dennis sold next north to John Wesley Lockwood; 1890 to Jerry Wolfe, his daughter Dorothy E. Houlihan now. Wolfe house here in 1892.

In 1873 Anna A. Dennis sold to John Westley Lockwood from the junction of the railroads south on the west side of Center Street 210 ft.; 1886 and 1890 to Fred Saker; 1889 to Simon D. McLeod. Saker had a house here 1892.

N77. LELAND WRIGHT: In 1901 McLeod sold the south part to Robert Howard; 1937 other heirs to widow Mary Howard; 1939 heirs to Alex-



ander and Anna Staniszewski; 1949 other heirs to Leland F. Wright Jr. (Theresa H. Staniszewski).

N78. KARNACEWICZ: In 1903 McLeod sold the north part to Tomacz Ralkiewicz; 1920 to Julie and Sophie Duffy (Julie M. McDonald, Sophie LaRose); 1938 Julie to Sophie; 1945 to Eleanor, Chester and Bernard Karnacewicz. Three family house.

#### VINE STREET NORTH FROM RIVER TO CENTER STREET

On the west side of Vine Street, near the south end, were two houses which were carried away by the 1927 flood, the south one belonging to James Flavin, the other to Michael O'Brien, both owned by J. H. Heald 1892. This was a part of Nathaniel Monroe's land, now belongs to New England Power Company (August 1962 a new building is under construction on the site).

N79. COSTIN: Next north, facing south, is the Costin family home. This was the homestead of Nathaniel Monroe, sold in 1895 by his daughter Anna E. Heald to Cornelius W. and Bridget Crowley; 1905 to John L. Savage; 1905 to Patrick Costin (Margaret). The property now belongs to their daughters Ann Costin (lives downstairs, was for many years Mrs. William Filene's companion); Mrs. Mary E. Costin Kenneally (lives upstairs), and Mrs. Ellen A. Costin Spain. House here by 1877.

N80. MOYNIHAN: This is the west end of the piece that Anna A. Dennis sold to George E. Dennis; 1888 to George A. Brown; 1888 to Lydia M. Blood (John R.); 1890 to John J. Collins; 1896 to John J. Pierce; 1906 Pierces to Dennis Brennan; 1909 to Daniel Moynihan (Julia); in 1952 Mary Moynihan became a joint owner. Collins had house here 1892.

In 1879 Anna A. Dennis sold to Charles F. Dennis (Julia E.) the lots west of Center Street and south of Vine Street to the point where Vine turns south at the west end; 1888 to William H. Kiniry.

N81. CONWAY: In 1918 Kiniry sold the west end of the lot to James and Ellen Conway, now belongs to daughter Margaret M. Conway.

N82. ERNEST J. BALDASARO: In 1919 Kiniry sold the middle part of his lot to Maurice W. Chaffee; 1920 to Joseph Baldasaro (Julia). In 1902 Kiniry sold the east part of the lot to Dennis Brennan; 1917 to Jerry and Mary Carroll; 1921 to Baldasaro.



N83. EUGENE P. CRAY: North side of Vine Street spur, next to railroad—In 1879 Nathaniel Monroe sold to his daughter Anna E. Heald; 1906 her second husband, George L. Kibby, sold to James Barrett; 1942 Barrett heirs to Eugene P. Cray. Two family house, rented. Heald had house here 1892.

N84. SENEY: Next east of above, north side of Vine Street—This was the west part of the lot which Anna A. Davis sold 1881 to Daniel W. Brosnahan (see N69); 1885 to Betsey Austin; 1909 to Patrick A. Killeen, to Mary J. Killeen; 1949 to Mary J. Killeen and Mary Madeline Seney; 1955 to Madeline Patricia and Mary Madeline Seney. Duplex, rented. Betsey Austin had a house here 1892.

### MERCHANT STREET, FROM RAILROAD EAST TO CENTER STREET

N85. RAPHAEL JURKOIC: North side of Merchant Street, next to railroad. This was the north point of the land owned by Nathaniel Monroe, sold 1870 to Darius R. Jenness; 1871 estate to Thomas Lynch; 1919 Edward J. Lynch to Michael and Volga Kassell; 1921 to Eva MacDurfey; 1952 estate to Raphael and Blanche Jurkoic. Thomas Lynch had a house here 1892.

The rest of the property on Merchant Street Eugene P. Cray owns, having bought from the Barrett heirs in 1942.

N86. DIGGINS PLACE: South side of Merchant Street. James Barrett bought 1884 from James H. Heald (earlier his father-in-law, Nathaniel Monroe); 1919 to Mary Barrett Diggins; 1935 to James Barrett Jr. House here 1892. Heald had another house to the east 1892, not here now.

N87. FORMERLY JAMES BARRETT'S DRY GOODS STORE: North side of Merchant Street, family lived upstairs. In 1873 Anna A. Dennis sold to Thomas H. Lynch who owned next west; 1884 to Simon C. Webster; 1893 to James Barrett. Webster had a store here 1892.

N88. FORMERLY BARRETT'S GROCERY STORE: Next east, his brother-in-law Patrick (Patsy) Reardon was the clerk from the time it opened. The street then extended across the railroad grade crossing. In 1876 Anna Dennis sold to Center Street to Lorenzo D. Lockwood, he sold west part 1876 to Daniel Lockwood (Esther A.); 1882 to James H. Heald; 1883 to Rebecca Webster (Simon C.); 1893 to James Barrett. In 1878 Daniel Lockwood opened a grocery store here, succeeded by F. G. Pierce, later S. C. Webster. No one was particularly successful until Barrett took over.



## CHURCH STREET SOUTH TO NORTH

The area near the Arch Bridge, south of the line of River Street, belonged to Jonathan Chapin, River Street leading to his house. Philip Chapin seemed to have had a house west of the railroad near Jonathan's north line in 1862, 1864, 1872. Martin Ross was here. Miss Kit Ross had the postoffice here after Monroe. In later years George Rowland had the same house, probably between the Arch Bridge and the railroad. When the new dam was being built, the Rowland house was moved to a spot back of Aumand's store; family had just moved in when the house was carried away in the 1927 flood.

The land next north was Levi Chapin's. In 1862 he sold a half acre to Noyes E. Starkey; 1864 to Jonathan Chapin; 1869 to Gustavus N. Heath; 1872 to Amasa Plastridge who had a house here; 1881 to Patrick Ahern; 1888 to Henry C. Lane; 1888 to Bellows Falls Canal Co. In 1879 William A. Russell owned house opposite west end of River Street; 1892 Fall Mt. Paper Company.

In 1867 Levi Chapin sold to Albert F. Nims five acres west of the railroad, north from Chapin's south line to include through the Hecker Estate (N90); 1869 to James Dorney. Out of this the following five lots along the west side of Church Street were sold:

N89. ERNEST AUMAND: In 1878 Dorney to Harriet and Hattie M. Buss  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acre along the south line; 1886 to Henry F. Bond, to Herbert W. Moore; 1889 to William Connors; 1929 Jeremiah Connors to Ernest J. Aumand. The 1927 flood swept away this whole section, including the dooryard here. Aumand has an extensive store, also selling boats. Connors house here 1892.

N90. ERNEST J. BALDASARO: North corner Church and West Streets—In 1892 Dorney sold 100 ft. on Church Street to Nellie Dorney Reed of Windsor, Vermont; 1910 heirs to Daniel Connors; 1918 Elizabeth Connors to Charles F. Wright and Morris Gass; 1920 Wright to William S. Taylor (Frances K.); 1920 to Frederick G. Campbell; 1929 to Associate Holding Company; 1940 Savings Bank of Walpole foreclosed, sold to Ernest J. and Margaret Baldasaro. Probably Reed built the house, now made into tenements and a barber shop. About 1954 Baldasaro built on the north part of the lot what is now his Mt. Kilburn Sport Shop.

N91. TIMOTHY T. KENNEDY: Dorney's Lot #4: Sold 1892 to Maggie Carroll 50 ft. on Church Street; 1893 she (then Maggie Leary) part of lot



to Charles A. Smith (Sarah L.); 1920 to William J. King; 1939 heirs to Timothy T. and Anna E. Kennedy who built house.

N92. KANE & HEALY STORE BUILDING: Dorney's Lot #3 Sarah L. Dorney Smith had from her father 1892, sold 1902 to David T. Taylor; 1903 to William J. King who erected the present building. Mrs. Smith also had Lot #2 which she sold to King 1920; 1954 heirs sold both lots to Michael F. Kane and James B. Healy. Albert S. Richards was a butcher, had a shop here, ran a meat cart; later Cragin's Market until he died; Condon & Meany 1903 on. Voting place has been here at times. King had his office here, the other half then John Hartnett's grocery. Now State Liquor Store, tenement upstairs.

N93. MARY DORNEY HECKER ESTATE: Dorney's Lot #1. She had from her father 1892, never been sold, occupied by various members of the family, now Louise Smith and Gertrude Hecker. Dorney had house 1870, Mrs. Dorney 1892.

In 1869 Levi Chapin sold to John Brown two acres, 15½ rods along the west side of the railroad, north from Dorney to include N94 to N98, through to the river.

N94. BROWN: In 1891 Brown sold a house lot to son John H. Brown (3 rods on Church St.), now belongs to children Hazel M. and John H. Brown. Brown house here 1892.

N95. CAHALANE: John Brown kept this lot (92 ft. on Church Street) for himself, left to his daughter Mary Brown Cahalane (John W., brother of Mrs. John H. Brown), now her daughter Anna M. Cahalane. Had house here 1877, 1892.

N96. EUGENE P. CRAY: In 1878 John Brown sold the land between the railroad and Church Street to Albert Nims; 1919 Mary Nims Bolles to Eugene P. Cray, known as Engine House Lot, engine house here 1892. Nims erected this building to rent before the days of Russell Hall. Downstairs was the fire department and jail. School was kept upstairs after discontinuance at the stone schoolhouse on Main Street. The upstairs was used also as a clubroom—the Pastime Athletic Club, at another time a club which required all members to wear tan shoes, even for skating. For years this was Tom Kenney's store. In 1919 the Boy Scouts were meeting upstairs. The railroad had a switch across this land north of the store to the log pile west of the church. Walpole Fire Precinct had the right to keep and maintain two fire reservoirs on the lot.



N97. PHILIP M. BALDASARO: Next north of N92—John Brown deeded 1886 to his son James H. (6 rods on Church Street); 1915 widow Elizabeth to William H. Lane; 1919 to Agnes Carroll, Edith Carroll and Anna Carroll McGinney; 1941 to present owner. James McGuirk rents. J. H. Brown house 1892.

In 1869 Levi Chapin sold the next  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres north (6 rods on railroad), including N98 and N99 to John McNamara who had house here 1892.

N98. TOM KENNEY: In 1895 heirs sold lot on west side of street to Charles J. O'Neill; 1923 other heirs to Mary O'Neill; now Tom Kenney.

N99. RUTH M. LENAHAAN: East side of Church Street, north of store—In 1877 John McNamara sold to Albert F. Nims; 1891 to Honora Powers; 1911 other heirs to Mary E. Powers; 1920 to Dr. John P. and Catherine E. Lenahan, parents of the present owner. Rented. Mrs. Powers' house here 1892.

N100. KENNEDY & HENRY: East side of Church Street, next north—Levi Chapin sold 1872-3 to John Hatch 4 rods along the railroad; 1877 widow Catharine Hatch to John Kiniry; 1906 to Ellen M. Kennedy. Now belongs to Alice M. Kennedy and Lorraine A. and Cheryl Ann Henry. Hatch had house 1877, Kiniry 1892.

N101. ALBERT G. BUSHWAY: In 1872 Levi Chapin sold to Dennis Flannery  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre; 1923 to John M. Duffy; 1929 to Thomas and Mary A. Pheur; 1950 heirs to present owners. Flannery had house here 1877, 1892.

In 1871 Levi Chapin sold to Albert Nims from here north to the Smith farm, including N102 to N110 (from railroad west to the river):

N102. ST. PETER'S CHURCH PROPERTY: Between Ash and Spruce Streets, west side of Church Street. In 1877 Albert F. Nims sold to Bishop James A. Healey of Portland, Maine, the land where the church and parsonage stand, in 1878 a narrow strip next south, and in 1893 south to the corner of Ash Street and on the north side of the switch. In 1889 Bishop Bradley of Manchester bought the corner lot north of the church, used for parking. Church and parochial residence here 1892.

N103. VINCENT J. WALSH: Next north of School Street. In 1879 Nims sold to Edward Griffin of Alstead, son Patrick E. after him; 1925 Bellows Falls Savings Institute sold to Thomas E. O'Brien, to Frank Muszynski; 1926 to John and Bridget Walsh; 1947 heirs to Vincent J. Walsh. He and sister Margaret reside here. P. Griffin house here 1892.



N104. JOHN J. JACKSON JR.: In 1881 Nims sold to John J. Fitzgerald 141 ft. on Church Street; 1950 Ernest A. Fitzgerald to John J. Jackson. J. Fitzgerald house here 1892. North of Jackson is the entrance to Peter Marino's (Murry) junk yard.

N105. WILLIAM E. RUMBLEY ET AL.: In 1900 Nims sold to Patrick E. Griffin next north of the church property, west side of Church Street; 1919 to Edward Pendergast (Elizabeth). Mrs. Pendergast, William Rumbley and her children now own and occupy.

N106. MARY HOWE AND ANN F. DWYER: In 1885 Nims sold to Patrick Hartnett, willed to Ann F. Dwyer. Elwood Howe family lives here. Hartnett house here 1892.

N107. JAMES STACK: South corner Pine and Church Streets—In 1885 Nims to John Hassett; 1903 to Margaret and James Stack. Occupied by daughter Mrs. Andrew Crotty and family. House here 1892.

N108. MARGARET O'KEEFE: North corner Pine and Church Streets—In 1883 Nims to John O'Keefe, still in family. Occupied by Mrs. Margaret Brown and family. O'Keefe house 1892.

N109. JOSEPH BIXBY: In 1887 Nims to Hannah Relihan, later her daughter Mary, her husband William J. Kiniry; 1948 to Joseph and Anita Bixby the south lot. Daniel Relihan house here by 1891.

N110. JOSEPH D. KINIRY: North part of Relihan lot—In 1948 Kiniry heirs sold to Edward H. and Genevieve Wells; 1950 to Joseph D. and Frances C. Kiniry. Ethel Kiniry lives downstairs, Donald Kiniry family upstairs.

In 1833 Harvey Holkins sold to Jonathan Chapin 79 acres; 1869 to Mary Jane Smith (Nelson C.); in 1874 Smith to Albert Nims 6 acres from here north to the brook, from the railroad to the river, including N111 to N114:

N111. WILLIAM JACKOWSKI: West side of Church Street, south of brook—In 1892 Nims sold to James P. McGinnis "Land and buildings, said lot being at head of Church Street so called . . ."; 1928 heirs to widow Margaret McGinnis; 1953 Helen A. McGinnis to William A. Jackowski. This is the plot where the house stands, other parts having come down through various ownerships. Somewhere here, back from the street, there was a tenement house known as the Beehive, burned about 1920.

N112. BELINDA GRIPPO: East side of Church Street, next north of entrance



to Murry property. In 1874 Nims sold 1/2 acre to Thomas Lynch; 1909 other heirs to Bridget and Patrick Wynne; 1929 to Angelo and Letizia Capobianco; 1955 to Belinda Grippo. Lynch built house by 1877.

N113. FRANK S. BROWN: In 1889 Nims sold lot to James Morrissey, 63 ft. on east side of Church Street; 1894 to James Kane; 1959 James E. Kane (son) to present owners. Morrissey house here 1892.

N114. STANLEY KARPINSKI: Store on east side of Church Street, dwelling faces Maple Street on north side. In 1914 Mary Nims Bolles sold to Tony and Mary Costello; 1921 to Charles and Mary Muszynski; 1925 to Stanley Karpinski (Eva). Partially destroyed by fire Dec. 31, 1924.

In 1887 the Smiths sold the rest of their farm, from the brook north to include N115 to N119, to the Fall Mountain Paper Company which sold 1893 to William Russell; 1901 to William H. Kiniry. The Paper Company reserved all land west of a line 120 ft. west of Church Street.

N115. JAMES H. KANE: In 1921 Kiniry sold to William J. and Mary Kiniry the lot next north of the brook, east side of Church Street; 1952 to Ethel Kiniry; 1959 to James H. and Ruth A. Kane. William Kiniry built the house.

N116. HENRY A. TOLE: North corner Church and Russell Streets—In 1904 William H. Kiniry sold to John O'Connor; 1943 heirs to Henry A. and Mary Tole. O'Connor built the house.

N117. Next north of the brook on the west side of Church Street is the Village Hall.

#### RUSSELL HALL

William Russell built and gave to the town Russell Memorial Hall, which was dedicated in May 1902. It was a two story wooden building 60 ft. x 80 ft. with a 75 ft. tower on the north side, a porch on the east side. On the first floor there were the village library, the headquarters for the village officers, two rooms for the fire department and a banquet room and kitchen. On the second floor there was an assembly hall with stage. There were hard wood floors, steam heat and electric lights. The cost was about \$12,000. Six hundred invitations were sent out. The promenade took place at 7:30 P.M., music by Exner's Orchestra. There were short speeches, refreshments and dancing.

This hall became the social center of the community. It had the best



dance floor in these parts, for some years a dance every Friday night by the Jolly Three. Here the firemen held their balls. There were also prize fights every two or three weeks promoted by Jimmie Byrne, with as good fighters as ever drew gloves. The preliminary bouts were between local boys, the finalists from Boston.

There were also social, dramatic and sports clubs. The Bon Ami Social Club had a good baseball team, coached by Ed Tole. There was also the Holy Name baseball team which used to play where Cray's oil tanks are now on the east side of Main Street. In the 1920s the ball team was the Pastime Athletic Club. The North Walpole Athletic Club was a well known ball team, their first uniforms red with blue letters.

The building burned January 31, 1949 and was replaced with the present modern one story building, Village Hall.

N118. JOSEPHINE HOGAN HARTNETT: Next north of Village Hall. In 1903 Kiniry sold to Annie Kiniry Sullivan (Neil); 1907 to Jeremiah J. Hogan; 1946 other heirs to Josephine Hogan.

N119. FRANK PINTELLO: In 1903 Kiniry sold to John H. Kiniry; 1941 widow Mary L. to Peter and Freda Trybulski; 1944 to Joseph P. Shelc; 1946 to Richard S. and Lorraine A. Henry; 1947 to John and Mary Blicharz; 1958 to Frank and Yvonne Pintello. Trailer on the lot.

In 1849 John Johnson sold his 393 acre farm next north to Holland Allbe. In 1864 Allbe sold to Jabez D. Bridgman 336 acres, having sold the north part of the farm to J. E. Drury.

N120. WILLIAM F. WAYSVILLE: In 1872 Bridgman sold 1/2 acre to Cornelius Bowen who had already erected buildings (on 1877 map, also 1892). His lot included what was taken for Church Street on his east bound, extended 332.1 ft. south from Elm Street. In 1952 William Waysville (Stasia D.) bought the property.

In 1871, 1873 Bridgman sold to Michael Stack one acre next north of N117 on the east side of Church Street. In 1891 he sold the west part of the lot to Patrick Griffin, east part to Julia M. Keefe; after some rearrangement the following had the three lots on Church Street, south to north:

N121. LAWRENCE J. DELANEY: Lawrence Delaney bought 1892, still in the family. Johanna Delaney lives upstairs, John Hearne family downstairs.

N122. ELLA C. AND JOHN KEEFE: James Tyman bought 1904; 1928 to Maurice Stack; 1929 to William E. Dunn (Annie); she left property to Ella C. Keefe and her brother John.



N123. ANTON A. GASPARDINO: George A. Gale bought 1903 and 1904; 1923 to John Hollar (Mary); 1950 widow to Gaspardino.

N124. ALBERT HEARNE: Northeast corner Church and Elm Streets, 280 ft. on Church Street. Bridgman sold to John McCarty; 1901 other heirs to widow Eliza; to John H. McCarty; 1917 west part to Tony and Mary Costello; 1959 to Albert Hearne (Johanna). Costello built, operated as a tea-room, later converted into dwelling.

N125. JOHN J. HEALY: Out of the McCarty holdings, northwest corner Church and Elm Streets. In 1901 John H. McCarty (had from the other heirs) sold to John Healy; 1927 to Thomas J. Healy.

N126. LEROY J. GREENOUGH: In 1941 Elizabeth F. Healy, administrator of Thomas' estate, sold land next north to Leroy J. and Agnes D. Greenough who built the house.

N127. EARL B. BLOOD: In 1947 Elizabeth Healy sold the lot next north to Blood who built house.

Next north Holland Allbe sold 18 acres west of the railroad (37 acres east of railroad) to Joseph E. Drury (Lucy) in 1855; 1867 to Israel Stowell; 1871 to Oscar L. Perham, from the Bridgman north line to the turn in Rt. 12, including the oil tanks on the east side of the highway. In 1876 Perham sold to John Sheridan a strip 14 rods wide from the river east almost to Church Street and in 1877 from there east a strip the same width to Michael Sheridan. In 1893 he sold to John Sheridan the rest to his north line. In 1921 the Sheridan heirs sold 8 acres on the west side of the highway to Henry J. Belec; 1922 to Biltmore Land Company of Providence, Rhode Island; mortgage foreclosed; 1940 to Julia Moriarty of Cranston, Rhode Island.

N128. JOSEPH CAPRON: In 1940 the Caprons bought Lots 1 and 2 in the southeast corner of the tract, south of Duffy Court, built house.

In 1943 the town took the Biltmore land for taxes, sold 1944 to Kane & Healy. They have oil tanks north of Duffy Court.

N129. MYRTON EDSON: In 1879 Michael F. Sheridan sold to John McNamara (Mack) a lot 22 rods deep on the east side of Church Street. His house burned fall of 1882. His heirs sold 1923 to Frank Przybylo; 1950 heirs to Charles P. Przybylo, northwest part of lot; 1950 to Myrton W. and Zosia B. Przybylo Edson. Probably Przybylo built house during 1920's. Edson has machine shop east of house.



N130. In 1891 Perham sold to Lewis P. Moody the rest of his farm north to Solon Olcott's line (at turn in Rt. 12) and east to the railroad. He divided into lots. In 1896 Standard Oil Company of New York bought #17 along the railroad; in 1915 #26-#31 on the east side of Church Street; 1948 to Warren A. and Dorothy E. Schurman; 1956 mortgage foreclosed, sold to Claremont Oil Company. (Oil tanks here.)

N131. WALTER KOLODZIEJ: This was out of the Moody property, Lots 1-11, 23-25, 32-33, south side of Oak Street. Mike and Kati Kolodziej began buying here 1916, added; 1961 other heirs to Walter and Jean Kolodziej. Frances and Charles Golec own Lots 5 and 6.

N132. EUGENE CRAY GARAGE: West side of Rt. 12. This is out of Fall Mountain Paper Company land from Solon Olcott farm to William A. Russell 1893; 1901 to William H. Kiniry; 1921 to Stephen J. Cray, now Eugene P. Cray. Guy Baldasaro operates.

GREEN COMPANY PLANT: Next north of the garage Eugene P. Cray owns another building, leased for the manufacture of boxes.

TECHROMATIC: In 1954 Saratoga Plastics (New York company) bought from the B & M Railroad 2.48 acres next north of the Standard Oil Company tanks, east of Rt. 12.

CHECKERBOARD FEED STORE: In 1960 Ralston Purina Company bought land from B & M Railroad, erected building close by the railroad south of the underpass.

WHITELIGHT INDUSTRIES: Between Rt. 12 and railroad north of underpass. This land belonged to the railroad, sold 1950 to Eugene P. Cray, to United Murray Heel, Inc.; 1953 to Essex Realty Company; 1959 to White Metal Rolling & Stamping Corporation; to Whitelight Industries.

#### SIDE STREETS, WEST STREET— WEST OF SOUTH END OF CHURCH STREET, NORTH TO SOUTH

All of these lots are out of the land Chapin sold to Nims who sold to James Dorney.

N133. GERARDO GRIPPO: Six family house at northeast end of the street, on Dorney north line. In 1892 James Dorney to Nellie Reed; 1902 to Ida Blake; 1913 to Almon M. Richards (lived here, butcher shop on Church



Street); 1928 to Rolland A. Richards; 1933 to Savings Bank of Walpole; 1941 to Gerardo and Belinda Grippo.

N134. JAMES B. SMITH: At the head of West Street—Heirs of James Dorney Jr. 1907 to Arthur E. White (Nellie); 1915 to James B. Smith (Margaret Keefe), now daughter Marion (Leslie Chickering).

N135. MARGARET T. POWERS: In 1892 Dorney to Nellie Reed; 1914 to John Powers, built house.

N136. CHAUNCEY A. HARTNETT: In 1904 Sarah L. Smith sold to Dennis T. Relihan (Catherine F.), probably built house, removed to Claremont; 1926 to Michael H. Landers, left to daughter, Mary Roddy; 1950 to Chauncey A. and Velma V. Hartnett.

N137. DAVID F. SHAUGHNESSY: In 1896 Sarah L. Smith to Michael Torpy (Julia); 1897 to Mary Ann Dufficy; 1950 Matthew E. Boucher (Margaret C.), grandson; 1957 to David F. Shaughnessy (Claire).

N138. JOHN AND SAVINA LYONS: In 1881 Dorney to Patrick Connors; 1920 to present owners. Connors house here 1892.

N139. USHER: In 1881 Dorney to William Corbett; 1933 to John J. Usher, still in family. Corbett house here 1892.

N140. EDWARD HARTNETT: In 1892 Dorney to Maggie Carroll (Leary); 1893 to William King; 1899 to Edward Hartnett. Dorney house 1892.

N141. FRANK C. SHAUGHNESSY: South side of West Street. This was out of the same strip as Aumands' on Church Street, which see; Bond sold this piece 1886 to Fred Petrie (Ellen); 1917 to Catherine M. Walsh (Thomas); 1919 to Francis S. and Mary G. Shaughnessy. Petrie house 1892.

N142. WILLIAM F. DURWARD: East side of West Street. In 1915 Sarah Smith to William F. Durward Lot 12, in 1929 Lot 11 next south.

N143. JOHN C. LINDSTROM: Lot 10—In 1897 Smith to Daniel Relihan, next south of N142; 1944 Hannah McGowan foreclosed, sold 1946 to James Albert Lindstrom; 1951 to present owners.

N144. MAURICE F. RELIHAN JR.: In 1885 Dorney estate to Timothy Relihan; 1902 to Maurice; 1934 to Maurice F. Jr. Relihan house 1892.

N145. ERNEST J. AUMAND: North side of West Street. Annis Lane had three lots here from Dorneys; 1901 William Lane to Honora Lane; 1916 her



son William H. to Edward Pendergast (Elizabeth); 1919 to William H. Lane; 1952 to Ernest J. Aumand the west 118 ft. In 1947 Julia F. Lane (widow of William H.) sold the east part of the Lane property to Timothy T. Kennedy (Anna E.). In 1892 Mrs. Lane and J. Connor had houses here on the north side of West Street. Now one house, on the corner.

#### ASH STREET, SOUTH SIDE, EAST TO WEST

All of this property came out of the John McNamara land (see Church Street).

N146. JOHN P. BRESLAND: In 1897 McNamara heirs to William McNamara; 1948 to John P. and Helen A. Bresland.

N147. BRIDGET CALVEY AND MARY JANE MCAULIFFE: 1903 McNamara heirs to Catharine Calvey, her heirs now.

N148. JAMES M. TOLARO: In 1900 McNamara heirs to William Millerick; 1945 to Edward H. Williams (Nellie E.); 1948 to James M. and Margaret T. Tolaro.

N149. LEON F. LYNCH: This was the northwest corner of the Boston Condensed Milk Company tract (see Pearl Place). In 1919 Savings Bank of Walpole to Thomas P. and Mary A. Murray; 1947 to Leon Francis and Estelle Katherine Lynch.

N150. KATHERINE E. BRENNAN: 1892 McNamara to Michael Brennan, still in the family.

N151. NORMAN PARROTT: 1881 McNamara to Joseph Sylvester, a strip across the west end of his lot; 1942 to Norman Parrott. Joseph Sylvester house here 1892.

#### PEARL PLACE

The Bellows Falls Boat Club had a boathouse at the west end of the arch bridge, entered by going downstairs from the bridge. At what is now Pearl Place the Club had a 150 ft. boathouse with a slip where the boats were hauled in for winter storage. In 1909 the McNamara heirs sold land here to the river to the Boston Dairy Company; 1911 to Boston Condensed Milk Company which failed (the ice-house for the creamery in Bellows Falls was here, ice taken from the river); 1914 to Mary Killeen; 1915 to Frank W. Fenno and Isador Myer; 1916 to Alice Bianco, to



Middlesex Realty Construction Company; 1917 to Savings Bank of Walpole; 1919 to Charles F. Wright part of this property and other property here; 1955 to Ernest J. and Mary M. Aumand. On this property there are four houses on Pearl Place and one at the end of Ash Street facing east. Charles Wright built about 1925.

#### NORTH SIDE ASH STREET

N152. JOSEPH DAIGLE: In 1910, 1914 Bolles to Joseph and Annie Daigle, built house 1914.

N153 and N154. JOHN T. GALLAGHER AND AGNES J. REYNOLDS: In 1896 Nims to Patrick J. Gallagher, still in family. There are two houses. In 153 lives John Gallagher, unmarried; before him his aunt, Mrs. Peter Gallagher. Michael (brother of Peter) had 154, his daughter Catherine (Mrs. Edmund Foley) has the house now.

From here to the river and north to the paper company land, James H. Heald bought from Albert F. Nims in four installments between 1880 and 1892. Heald had a shop here, perhaps for manufacture of chairs.

N155. BRIDE COMERFORD: In 1897 Anna E. Heald Kibby sold the southeast corner of the lot 50 ft. on street, to John Aylward; 1912 to Kate Aylward (Thomas); 1932 to Bride Comerford.

N156. RAYMOND J. AUMAND: In 1898 Anna E. Heald Kibby sold to Honora Shaughnessy; 1935 Thomas A. and Arthur H. Shaughnessy to William J. King; 1948 John King to Ivor A. and Mary E. Egecrome; 1952 to Royal A. and Celia M. Wallace; 1952 to Ernest J. and Mary M. Aumand; 1956 to Raymond J. Aumand.

N157. ERNEST J. AUMAND: In 1897 Anna E. Kibby sold to Nicholas Powers, next 50 ft. along north side Ash Street; 1953 Margaret Mary Powers to Ernest J. and Mary M. Aumand.

N158. BESSIE MULCAHY: From the lot above to the river Anna L. Kibby sold 1903 to Jerry Mulcahy (Bessie).

#### SPRUCE STREET: OUT OF ALBERT NIMS LAND, SEE CHURCH STREET, SOUTHEAST TO WEST TO NORTH

N159. PATRICK MCDERMOTT (Catherine): In 1917 bought from Bolles.

N160. JOHN O'HEARNE: On corner. In 1898 Nims to Thomas Murphy; 1923 to John and Molly O'Hearne. Murphy house here 1892.



N161. EDWARD J. STACK: In 1906 Bolles to Lawrence Pheur; 1937 to present owner.

N162. JOHN AND MAGDALENA PANEK (PONEK): From Bolles 1940, rents to several families. On the 1892 map is the P. Bailey (?) house between 159 and 160.

N163. EDWARD O'BRIEN: Southeast corner of Spruce Street. In 1893 Nims to Michael Keneally; 1900 Ellen Keneally to Edward O'Brien with buildings. Nims house here 1892.

N164. JAMES SHAUGHNESSY: Southwest corner Spruce Street. In 1880 Nims to Nora Shaughnessy with buildings; 1883 to Patrick; 1929 other heirs to James Shaughnessy. Shaughnessy house here 1892.

N165. JOHN E. AYLWARD: In 1882 Nims to James McLaughlin; 1945 son Charles J. to John E. and Mary Aylward. McLaughlin house here 1892.

Spruce Street runs into Pine Street at the north. On the southwest corner is a big empty lot, where there was a sawmill at one time. At west end of Pine Street is a Power Company brick building and a crude place to put boats into the river. On the 1892 map there is a chair shop south of the sawmill, near the river, probably Heald's.

#### PINE STREET, WEST TO EAST

N166. JAMES A. MCGUIRK: In 1879 Nims to Patrick Marlborough; 1905 to widow Margaret; 1914 to Thomas P. Murray (Mary A.); 1948 to James A. McGuirk (Eleanor F.). There was a house on this lot in 1879, near east line on 1892 map. B. Collins had a house to the west.

N167. ROSE SZUCH ESTATE: In 1920 Margaret Marlborough sold the east part of her lot on the street to Frank Muszynski (Mary); 1928 to Stanley Dansky; 1930 to Frank Muszynski; 1931 to Andrew and Rose Szuch.

N168. JOHN F. DOYLE: In 1879 Nims to Charles F. Lockwood, already living here in house on place; 1881 to William W. Haskell; 1891 to Margaret Tole, she left to Mary Wieber and Orville A. Clowater, 1902 to him; 1920 to James J. and Jane Doyle; 1949 Jane, widow, to John F. Doyle. Tole house here 1892.

N169. ALEXANDER KECHKEMETY (KACHKEMATY): In 1879 Nims to Charles Davis, already occupying, who quit 1886; 1887 Nims to Bridget Dalton, then to Patrick; 1905 to John Conway; 1913 heirs to James Kane, east part of lot; 1925 to present owner and wife Julia. Dalton house here 1892.



N170. ERNEST J. SAVOIE: South side of street. In 1893 Nims to David Keefe; 1939 to Julia A.; 1954 to Ernest and Marguerite M. Savoie.

#### ELM STREET WEST OF CHURCH STREET, NORTH SIDE

N171. EDWARD S. OSTROWSKI: In 1888 Trustee for Bridgman sold to Walter A. Parker; 1912 to Walter and Petronella Janiak; 1915 to Bowthomig (or Bartholomew) and Blanche Ostrowski; 1961 to present owner.

Next west Bridgman sold one acre in 1870 to Cornelius Sullivan (Hannah); 1870 to Lettie F. Brothers; 1911 Mitchell H. Brothers to Sarah J. Stack (Peter). The buildings burned while the Stacks owned; 1917 sold the land to Ostrowski next door.

Next west Mrs. G. Coleman had a small house in 1892, moved to Pine Street for Paper Company office, later torn down.

Next west was W. Keefe house, burned.

#### DUFFY COURT, WEST SIDE OF CHURCH STREET

New development out of Biltmore Land of Kane and Healy.

N172. FRANK BORGES: Paul Aumand built 1961, north side of street.

N173. WILLIAM J. KRATKY: At west end of street, north side. In 1952 Kane & Healy to Irwin Cowing (Geraldine), built house; 1956 to William J. and Emily Kratky—Lots #14 and #15.

N174. GILBERT E. GRAY: South side of street. Lots #12 and #13 and part of #11. In 1954 Kane & Healy to Walter J. and Mayme Waryas; 1958 to Stanley W. Waryas; 1960 to Alfred P. Killeen; 1960 to Paul J. and Eleanor L. Aumand; 1961 to Gilbert E. and Janice M. Gray.

N175. JOSEPH F. HOWSON: Lots #6, #7, #8, south side of street. In 1950 Kane & Healy to Gilbert D. and Virginia M. Ranta; 1953 to Joseph F. and Violet Ann Howson; 1955 to Joseph F. Howson.

Between the two houses above Albro is building a house (fall 1962).

#### MAPLE STREET EAST OF CHURCH STREET

All out of Nims (see Church Street).

N176. TONY MOLASKI: Southwest end of street. In 1891 Nims sold to Charles Riepold, house here then; 1901 to James Kane; 1925 heirs to Anthony Moleski (Katherine).

N177. PETER MARINO (MURRAY): East side of street. In 1920 Mary N. and Almon I. Bolles sold this place to Julia Murray, now Peter Murray et al.



There is some earlier history to this place. Thomas Bushway had a house here and seems to have owned as early as 1887, shown 1892 map. Mrs. Holbrook 1902.

Next north is a storehouse which originally was a house belonging to the railroad, as early as 1887. The railroad also owned another house to the north of this one. All this property is now Murray's.

N178. ANNA AND JOSEPH FRANCIS HENRY: Northeast corner of street. In 1884 Nims sold to Michael M. O'Connor; 1914 to John (Giovanni) and Caitanella Baldassaro; Anna Baldassaro Henry inherited. O'Connor house here 1892.

N179. JANET NOOKS: South side of street, on corner. In 1888 Nims sold land and buildings to William Wessell; 1916 to James and Amelia Baldassaro; 1919 to John and Julia Baldassaro; 1920 to Janet Nooks.

N180. ANGELO BALDASSARO: South side of street. In 1904 Cynthia M. Nims deeded this property to Hannah Barry; 1944 heirs to Catherine A. Walsh; 1945 to Elwyn Brooks (Julia R.); 1954 to Angelo and Madeline Baldassaro. According to the 1892 map Jeremiah Barry had a house here then. Hannah was his widow. The other heirs sold after the daughter Anna died in 1943.

N181. STANLEY KARPINSKI: In 1884 Albert F. Nims sold house and lot to Patrick Ballinger; 1906 heirs to Mary Bolles; 1910 to Mary Takach; 1927 to Frank and Mary Muszynski; 1928 to Stanley Dansky; Henry Gochinski and Bellows Falls Trust Company foreclosed, sold to Antoni and Annie Starzyk; 1929 to Stanley and Eva J. Karpinski. Ballinger house here 1892.

#### ELM STREET EAST OF CHURCH STREET, SOUTH SIDE

N182. CLAYTON H. PARROTT: For early records see Church Street. In 1903 Margaret A. Gale sold to Mary E. Powers; 1922 to John Dunn; 1959 heirs to Clayton H. and Mary Parrott.

N183. FRANK C. WRIGHT: North side Elm Street, out of McCarty land (see Church Street). In 1910 John H. McCarty of Rockingham sold to Peter Henry land and buildings; 1914 to Tony and Mary Costello; 1955 to Frank C. and Pauline M. Wright. McCarty had house here 1877, 1892.

N184. LEAHY: North side of Elm Street, east end. Part of what Monroe sold Tidd 1887; 1896 to Michael Gallagher, still in family, now Timothy Leahy family.



## BROOK STREET, NEXT TO RAILROAD

N185. JOHN AYLWARD: In 1887 Nathaniel Monroe to Frank J. and Bessie A. Tidd; 1889 to George E. Punt east part (wife was Ida who married for second husband Ingram); 1910 to John Aylward. Nellie Aylward Hearne lives here. Punt house here 1892, a showy place with many flowers—in the days before florists, a source of flowers for funerals.

N186. STANISLAU KOPACZ: At east end of Elm Street, south side. In 1883 Monroe to John and Margaret Murphy; 1912 estate of Margaret to Pasquale Baldassaro; 1918 to Guiseppe and Marie Carmele Pepe; 1919 to Stanislaw and Wikloryja Kopacz. Their daughter Helen Kopacz Burns lives here. Murphy house here 1892.

N187. EDMUND HEARNE: Next north of N189. In 1870 Jabez D. Bridgman sold to Michael Torpy (Hannah) with buildings; 1875 to John O'Connell (Catherine) (house here 1877); 1882 to George A. Brown (Flora E.); 1882 to James Keefe; 1925 heirs to Mary Keefe; 1940 to Annie F. Dwyer; 1940 to Edmund and Helen (Nellie) A. Hearne.

## BIRCH STREET

According to the 1892 map there were three houses on the north side of Birch Street, from the west M. Landers, T. Gallagher, Mrs. E. Powers. There are now two houses, probably the two latter.

N188. NICHOLAS CAPRON ESTATE: In 1877 Oscar L. Perham sold this property to Michael Sheridan; 1884 to George A. Brown; 1884 to Maurice Landers; 1920 to Nicholas and Clementine Capron. No house now.

N189. NICHOLAS CAPRON ESTATE: In 1889 Honora Powers sold  $\frac{1}{3}$  acre with buildings, west part of her property, to Thomas Gallagher; 1895 to John Conway; 1904 to Nicholas and Peppina Camerchioli Capron; 1931 to Nicholas and Clementine Capron.

N190. OLLIE BIXBY: In 1875 Oscar L. and Mary Ann Perham sold an acre of land here north side of Birch Street to John Powers; 1879 estate to his widow Honora; 1891 to Peter Henry; 1919 estate to Ollie A. and Katherine Bixby. The ell of this house was originally Con Crowley's shanty north end of Center Street.

## EAST STREET, EAST TO WEST

Out of the Holland Allbe Farm, the south line about where the brook crosses Main Street. In 1864 Jabez D. Bridgman bought the Allbe farm



and sold this section to Nathaniel Monroe; 1887 to Andrew McCarthy. McCarthy house here 1892.

N191. PATRICK L. (BALDASSARO) BOWEN: At the east end of the street. In 1919 Andrew McCarthy estate to James Bowen (Vincentzio Baldassaro) and wife Amelia. All except the three places to the west were left to Patrick L. Bowen.

N192. FRANK W. JOHNSON (JANKIEWICZ): Andrew McCarthy home place. In 1903 Andrew J. to William J. McCarthy; 1912 to Bellows Falls Savings Institution; 1912 to Patrick J. and Myrtle Scott, land and buildings; 1932 to Frank W. and Stella B. Johnson.

N193. JOHN J. GALLAGHER: In 1901 Andrew McCarthy sold to Mary A. Holahan; 1921 willed to Catherine M. Hartnett; 1935 willed to St. Joseph's Orphanage; 1952 to John J. and Mary Gallagher.

N194. RICHARD A. GAY: Next to pond. In 1902 Andrew McCarthy to Elizabeth T. Keefe (William); 1937 heirs to William (house recently partially destroyed by fire); 1946 sons William and Leo B. to John C. and Clara K. Pikul; 1959 heirs to Richard and Joanne Gay.

N195. ANTHONY CARL D'AMORE: West of pond, east part of lot at north corner Main and East Streets. In 1888 George A. Brown sold to Ethan A. Crosby; 1893 to James B. Cram; 1896 to George A. Bruce of Charlestown; 1899 to David Savage; 1904 to John Minogue; 1918 to John and Jane O'Brien; 1934 to John D'Amore (Maria L.); 1954 to Anthony Carl and Maria L. D'Amore.

N196. GUY BALDASARO: South side of East Street, out of a corner that Holland Allbe sold to Jonathan Allbe 1861; 1869 to Mary Jane Smith; 1887 to Fall Mountain Paper Co.; 1893 to William A. Russell; 1901 heirs to William H. Kiniry; 1923 widow Margaret Kiniry to Enoch Bowe; 1954 his children to Guy J. Baldasaro.

#### JUDA AND JOHNSON DEVELOPMENTS ON PLATEAU EAST OF MAIN STREET

In 1933 Mary Nims Bolles sold to John Juda that part of the upper plain north of Mountain View Road and to the southeast; 1949 Juda to his daughter Frances Sheltz. In 1945 Mrs. Bolles sold to Charles Royce, Jr., the land on the first plain south of the school and most of the upper plain south of Mountain View Road, that which had not already been



sold to Juda; 1946 to Howard R. and Mary A. Johnson. N197-N217 out of Johnson; N218-N230 out of Juda. "Nims Field" was on this upper level.

N197. ERNEST J. AUMAND SR.: South and west of Mountain View Road on first plain. Warehouse north part of lot, residence south part. Johnson 1955 to Ernest J., Sr., and Mary M. Aumand. They built.

N198. PAUL J. AUMAND: East of Mountain View Road. In 1955 to Ernest J. Aumand, Sr.; 1958 to Paul J. and Eleanor Aumand, who built house.

## STREETS SOUTH FROM MOUNTAIN VIEW ROAD, WEST TO EAST

### TAYLOR STREET, WEST SIDE, NORTH TO SOUTH

N199. OTIS JOHNSON: Trailer. In 1956 to Harold H. and Katherine K. Dowlin; 1957 to Otis and Georgianna Johnson.

N200. JOHN O'BRIEN: In 1956 to Christine E. and John R. O'Brien.

N201. MICHAEL KELLY, JR.: In 1956 to Michael, Jr., and Dorothy L. Kelly.

N202. AUMAND REALTY CORPORATION: The old Nims homestead, previously Levi Chapin, was built 1862; in 1960 to present owners from Howard A. Johnson.

### TAYLOR STREET, EAST SIDE NORTH TO SOUTH

N203. HAROLD E. BUSHWAY: In 1953 to Harold E. and Avis S. Bushway.

N204. ELMO J. CLOUTIER: In 1953 to Elmo J. and Rose A. Cloutier.

N205. FRANCIS J. MOLASKI: In 1957 to Francis J. and Bertha Ruth Molaski.

## ON UPPER PLAIN, HILLCREST ROAD, WEST SIDE, NORTH TO SOUTH

N206. STEVEN A. SOBOLESKI: In 1954 to Steven A. and Priscilla Soboleski.

N207. KENNETH P. PARROTT: In 1951 to Kenneth P. and Grace E. Parrott.

N208. FRANCIS E. WILLIAMS: In 1953 to Francis E. and Janice J. Williams of Weston, Vt.



N209. EDWARD J. BARTLETT, JR.: In 1957 to John A. Stuart; 1957 to Edward J., Jr., and Teresa Bartlett.

N210. ROGER H. COUTERMARSH: In 1953 to James T., Jr., and Patricia M. Harty; 1959 to Joe and Opal Baalson; 1960 to Roger H. and Mary Lou Coutermarsh. Harty built house.

#### HILLCREST ROAD, EAST SIDE, NORTH TO SOUTH

N211. EARL T. RECORDS: In 1956 to Michael J. and Jennifer M. Tolaro; 1959 to Ernest J. and Mary M. Aumand; 1962 to Paul J. and Eleanor L. Aumand; 1962 to Earl T. and Jean Records. Paul Aumand built the house.

N212. NORMAN C. RICHARDSON: In 1956 to Harold and Katherine Dowlin; 1957 to Norman C. and Shirley A. Richardson, who built house.

N213. HAROLD H. DOWLIN: In 1957 to Harold H. and Katherine K. Dowlin.

#### UNNAMED STREET (NOT ACCEPTED) NEXT EAST OF HILLCREST ROAD AND EAST OF POWER LINE, RUNS SOUTH INTO SOUTH STREET WEST SIDE, NORTH TO SOUTH

N214. ROBERT H. MCCORMICK: In 1961 to Paul J. and Eleanor Aumand who built house; 1961 to Robert H. and Jeanne E. McCormick.

N215. HOWARD R. AND MARY JOHNSON: This lot the Johnsons kept for themselves, built house.

#### EAST SIDE OF UNNAMED STREET, NORTH TO SOUTH

N216. JAMES D. VAN ETTEN: In 1960 to Paul J. and Eleanor Aumand; 1961 to James D. and Yvette T. Van Etten. Aumand built house.

N217. TIMOTHY J. RYAN, JR.: In 1960 to Paul J. and Eleanor Aumand; 1960 to Timothy J., Jr., and Bonita V. Ryan. Aumand built house.

N218. PAUL W. SHAUGHNESSY: In 1959 to Paul J. Aumand; 1960 to Paul W. and Mary E. Shaughnessy.

N219. JULIEN NADEAU: In 1957 to August and Maxine B. Enright; 1958 to Julien and Ivy Nadeau who built house.



N220. JOHN J. MOORE, JR.: In 1959 to Harold and Katherine Dowlin; 1960 to John J., Jr., and Virginia D. Moore who built house.

N221. HEINZ WEHNER: In 1959 to Harold H. and Katherine Dowlin; 1959 to Heinz and Mary K. Wehner.

STREETS NORTH OF MOUNTAIN VIEW ROAD,  
WEST TO EAST, OUT OF JUDA  
NORTH STREET, WEST SIDE, SOUTH TO NORTH

N222. RAYMOND J. AUMAND: In 1955 Frances Sheltz (Szelc) sold to Ernest J., Jr., and Sophie R. Aumand all on the west side of the street; 1957 south lot to Raymond J. and Ellen Aumand.

N223. WILLIAM F. DAVIS: In 1960 Ernest J., Jr., and Sophie R. Aumand sold the north lot to William F. and Joan P. Davis.

NORTH STREET, EAST SIDE, SOUTH TO NORTH

After Mrs. Sheltz sold the land on the west side of North Street to Ernest J. Aumand, Jr., she sold the rest of the so-called Juda land to her father, John Juda, in 1956.

N224. MORGAN BLODGETT: In 1956 to Morgan and Jeanne Blodgett.

N225. ROBERT W. GREENOUGH: In 1957 to John and Maria Galek; 1960 to Robert W. and Barbara J. Greenough.

N226. ANTHONY WASKLEWICZ: In 1957 to Anthony and Maria Wasklewicz.

N227. CARL CHAFFEE: In 1959 to Carl and Nancy Chaffee.

N228. ANTHONY S. JURKOIC: In 1958 to Anthony S. and Theresa Jurkoic.

UNNAMED STREET EAST OF NORTH STREET,  
WEST SIDE, SOUTH TO NORTH

N229. MICHAEL CHOROSTYNSKI: In 1957 to John and Maria Galek; 1957 to Michael and Stephanie Chorostynski.

N230. FRANK KMIEC: In 1957 to Anthony and Maris Wasklewicz; 1958 to Frank and Sofia Kmiec.



## UNNAMED STREET, SECOND EAST OF NORTH STREET, EAST OF POWER LINE

In 1961 John Juda sold to Paul J. and Eleanor Aumand a strip of land about 16 rods wide east from the power line, from Juda's north line south to Mountain View Road. Aumand has built, or is in the process of building, four houses here, two on each side of the road which he has laid out.

N231. DAVID F. SHAUGHNESSY: In the southeast corner of the strip, north side of Mountain View Road, in 1962 Aumand sold to David F. and Claire R. Shaughnessy.

N232. Next north of N231 and N233 and N234 on the west side of the street, Aumand still owns.

## GREEN ROAD

In 1919 Mary Nims Bolles sold to John Juda a piece of land on the easterly side of the road, including at present four dwelling houses; 1949 to daughter Mrs. Frances Sheltz.

N235. EUGENE KARATAJEW (KARMEN): In 1953 Mrs. Sheltz sold the south part of the tract with house to Eugene and Helen Karatajew (Karmen).

N236. RAYMOND MAXWELL: In 1954 the Karatajews sold next north of their place to Raymond and Marjorie Maxwell.

N237. ANTONI DELOCH: In 1953 Frances Sheltz sold the next lot east to Antoni and Annie E. DeLoch.

N238. JOHN JUDA: On land Juda bought of Mary N. Bolles 1919.





*Old Stone School No. 2, No. Walpole*

### Chapter III

## TOWN BUSINESS AND SERVICES

THE FIRST town meeting was held at Walpole the third Wednesday in March 1752 “agreeable to Charter.” Benjamin Bellows was moderator, clerk, and selectman with Joseph Blanchard and Theodore Atkinson. The two latter in all probability were never residents of the town. Up to 1760 Benjamin Bellows held most of the town offices. John Kilburn first held office in 1755 as selectman. In 1754 a constable and surveyor of highways were elected for the first time; 1755 a treasurer; 1761 a tythingman (Lemuel Hatch) and three assessors; 1762 two haywards, two (or three) fence viewers, sealer of “waits and measures”, sealer of leather; 1763 “Hogg Reives”, surveyor of clapboards and shingles, staves added in 1765; 1764 two deer reeves; 1769 Benjamin Bellows Jr. key keeper; 1770 two surveyors of timber. This list suggests what the settlers were doing during this time.

By 1761 town management had become more businesslike and it was voted to buy a record book into which were copied what records there were of previous meetings. Apparently the first warrant for a town meeting was issued in 1761. “To the Constable of the Town of Walpole in said Province Greeting: In his Majestys name you are required to notify and warn the Freeholders and Inhabitants of said Town to assemble and meet at the Fort in said Town on Wednesday the Eighteenth Day of March



instant at two of the clock in the afternoon that being meet and Form may act on the particulars here mention if they see cause." In addition to the election of officers they were "to hear the accounts how the money that was granted to hire preaching has been laid out and to see and grant money for to pay Mr. Jonathan Leavitt for preaching to the time that he shall be ordained . . . to see whether the Town will agree where to meet on the Sabbath and make some convenient seats to sit on and choose some person to provide same. And make return of this warrant to someone of us before the time of the Meeting. . . ."

At this meeting they voted "There be 12 shillings lawful money laid upon each settler belonging to said Town to be worked out at Highways at  $\frac{3}{5}$  per Day if worked out before the last of September next, the one half to be worked out by the last of June next, and the other half by the last of September."

At the annual meeting in March 1762 "Voted that each Settler or Inhabitant work four Days Each or pay Twelve Shillings Lawful Money Toward Setting up a Frame for a meeting house fifty six feet in Length and forty two feet in Bredth and that Benjamin Bellows Esq., make up the Rest." Benjamin Bellows, Thomas Chandler and Edmond Jackson were voted a committee "to see and take care of the meeting House work and make Provision there."

In 1764 it was voted to allow the swine to run at large "well yoaked and ringed"; by 1769 voted that they be shut up.

In 1765 every man was to give one day's work to build a pound, probably in the north part of the village.

In 1771 Cheshire County was set up with Keene the county seat but with court also held at Charlestown. The first jurors were drawn 1773, and that same year we find the town was sued for failing to repair the Merriam Road. Legal business was much more readily transacted than when one had to travel to Portsmouth, but we find Lt. Isaiah Witt, Capt. John Bellows, and Amos Babcock chosen a committee to meet at the Innhold of Capt. Bellows with committees from other towns: 1) To petition Governor and Council not to have any more Taxation without Representation, 2) That the Attorneys' Fees be abated and that an addition be made to the Jurors, 3) That Hon. Daniel Jones Esq. and Elisha Marsh, Esq., be removed as judges, 4) To petition His Majesty's Justices of the Peace that County Treasurer and Clerk of Court be nearer the center of the county. (Were they at their own homes, like the Register of Deeds at Walpole?)

May 11, 1775, Thomas Sparhawk was chosen delegate for six months



to the Provincial Congress at Exeter. Apparently Ebenezer Swan also attended. In July 1775 "Voted to Pledge their honor and Estates to Defray all necessary Charges that shall arise in the Common Cause . . . made choice of Ebenezer Swan, Josiah Goldsmith, and Shearman Boardman a Committee to nominate Field Officers." In December 1775 Capt. John Bellows was elected to represent Walpole at the Provincial Congress.

In December 1776 Col. Webber was elected representative, and Capt. Goldsmith, Amos Babcock, Samuel Trott, Barnabas Delano and John Marcy were chosen a committee to prepare instructions for him. With a great many words they told him they wanted the Union preserved and they wanted a state government formed. Whether he refused to follow the instructions or whether he did not interpret them in the same way that they were meant is not known, but there was great dissatisfaction with his performance, his constituents becoming much excited and threatening to bring him to the bar of the town to answer for his misdoings. In spite of his delinquency he was returned to Exeter by a rousing majority in the next election.

Walpole did her share in furnishing men and means for the service and use of the Continental army, and the records show evidence of the care taken for the families left at home. It was also during this period that the town began to raise money for the town poor.

At a meeting held July 12, 1779, "Voted to raise one thousand Pound to Procure five men that are Now Called for to Join the Continental army for one year In addition to What Servis has already been Done and the Whole to be forthwith assessed on the Present Valuation . . . Voted that Capt. Webber With the Rest of the Selectmen Procure the afore-said five men &C on the Towns Cost." In August this vote was added, "That the Selectmen add the Extraordinary hire that Capt. Webber gave the five men for the years Servis to the sum granted for that Purpose together with his Cost and Expence and assess the whole in one bill." Inflation had struck, or depreciation.

"The exact number of men that went into the Continental service" is not known, "but it is said that most of the able-bodied men in town served a longer or shorter period." (*AH*) (See appendix for list of men known to have served.)

The duties of the selectmen were gradually increasing. A committee to "examine and inquire into the State of the Town Treasury" was first elected 1774, reporting the following year. In 1777 it was voted that the selectmen and all other town officers shall have the usual power and authority as when law was in full force. By 1778 the selectmen were being



paid for "taking general invoice and settling the value of the Poles and Rateable Estate in order to make the State Tax." In 1778 they were also to look out for families of captives and those killed in the war.

The town bought a set of "Waits and Measures", and James Bundy furnished (probably made in his shop) a seal.

In 1780 a new pound was built on Col. John Bellows' land adjoining James Bundy (South end of Main Street); 1782 another pound 40 ft. x 40 ft. and 6 ft. high of stone, Thomas Page to build it for £9; Manoah Drury actually built it for £13/16/0. In 1784 again voted to build a pound on Maj. Benjamin Bellows' land near corner of Antipas Harrington (top of Prospect); 1793 "To remove old pound and build new on westerly corner of Common (the church common at top of Prospect), 40' 40' x 10' high." Stones from the old pound were used in the foundation of the Hooper School.

In 1779 voted to "Taick Possession of the Publick Wrights" and improve them for the benefit of the town. These lots 200 rods wide were along the north line of the town and had been reserved for Gov. Benning Wentworth, the Glebe and the Church of England, a total of about 1500 acres. These lands or a part of them were leased to John Prentiss of Langdon for a series of years, the betterments of which were sold to the town afterwards. In 1784, having trouble raising money to pay Mr. Fessenden his salary, due primarily to depreciation of the currency, the town voted "to sell so much of the Right for Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts in the Town of Walpole as to pay The Rev. Mr. Thomas Fessenden the Arrearage of his Salary the Town owed him January 1783." Benjamin Bellows, Samuel Trott and Jonathan Eastman were chosen a committee to give a deed to Mr. Fessenden of enough land to pay his salary. The town voted to defend the committee in case their right to sell the land was questioned in a lawsuit. In 1786 Col. John Bellows, Thomas Sparhawk and Col. Christopher Webber were chosen a committee to dispose of all of the public lands for the benefit of the town, the town to defend them in case of a lawsuit. (See History of Episcopal Church).

The great question during the 1780's was whether to finish the meeting house where it was or build a new one. After voting one way and then the other, it was finally decided in 1786 to build new on the hill where the Hooper School now stands.

Three means were used to finance the erection of the new house, even then some difficulty being experience due to the uncertainty of the value of currency. 1) Sale of pews at public vendue (auction). An ingenious installment plan was set up. 2) Sale of the public lands (May 29, 1787).



3) Taxes—In May 1788 “Voted to raise Two Hundred and Fifty pounds to be paid in Good Ox or Cow Beef at 20/ per Hundred or good Wheat at 4/ per bushel to be paid by the 15th of October next to be Laid out Toowards Finishing the New Meeting House.” The Baptists began to complain at being taxed for the new meeting house, but in January 1789 it was voted to continue taxing the Baptists. However, in September they voted “to Refund to the Baptists (meaning those that were Regular Baptist at the time they were Assessed to pay towards Building the New Meeting House) what was Collected from them.” At that time they also Voted to take the Glass out of the old Meeting House to help Glaze the New House. Captains Hooper, Carlisle and Jennison were chosen a committee to settle with the Baptists. Among these was probably Cornelius Warren who is recorded in 1784 as “certified a constant attendant at worship in Marlow.”

In 1787 Langdon was set off, taking the northeast corner of Walpole and the southeast corner of Charlestown. In *LAWS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE* Vol. 5 P 224-6, we find the following description: “From Charlestown south line westerly on said line to within 250 rods of the river, southerly on west side of Fall Mountain about one mile and 200 rods, easterly on north line of Mr. Atkinson’s land to the east line of Walpole, then on east line of Walpole to the south line of Charlestown. . . . To be represented as if still annexed in the same manner. . . . All public lands in said Walpole which may be included within the lines (of Langdon) shall be freed from taxes so long and no longer than while they continue to be public lands.”

April 24, 1787, Walpole “Voted to petition the General Court to extend the westerly line of Langdon to Connecticut River in accordance with the Walpole vote.” This was not done. In 1797 voted that the agent for the town make and deliver to the buyer deeds for Publick Lands in Langdon reserved by Walpole when Langdon was set off.

In 1808 the town was sued in connection with the public lands in Langdon and Roger Vose was chosen agent for the town.

By charter, town meeting was held the 3rd Wednesday in March. In 1790 by a special act of the legislature it was changed to the first Wednesday. In 1804 held for first time on second Tuesday in March.

By 1792 it had become very difficult to get anyone to accept the office of constable. The office entailed the collection of taxes and, especially while the currency was unstable, it was a risky task. After two candidates had been elected and excused, the town voted to hire a constable for the ensuing year to serve all town warrants for the hire and do the usual



business of the constable. Voted to set up the hire to the lowest bidder at vendue. (It became the custom to find out who would make the lowest bid, then elect that man to the office.) Voted that the constable shall be at no charge conveying poor people out of town except his own time. He was required to give his bond. In 1794 the bid was £8.

There was considerable concern for the poor of the town and some thought was given to the establishment of a poorhouse. In 1797 the voters rejected an article calling for a hospital for innoculating against small pox.

In 1794 the selectmen were to impound sheep feeding on the Common (church common on Prospect). In May 1799 it was voted no sheep to run at large on Meeting House Common at any season, neat cattle can run November 15 to May 15. Caleb Bellows chosen to keep the Common clear of neat cattle and sheep.

March 1792 the selectmen reported perambulating the Walpole-Westmoreland line according to law "From pillar of stones on Connecticut River east 10 degrees 15 minutes south  $4\frac{3}{4}$  miles and 25 rods to corner of Surry, stake and stones. Set up stake and stones every 80 rods . . . marked and numbered according to their distance and have put on the letters TL. . . ."

In 1815 the town accepted from Col. Thomas C. Drew one acre of land in Drewsville for a burying ground. The old burying ground in the village was enlarged. The town then owned a hearse and pall.

In 1816 Thomas Drew and others petitioned the legislature to be allowed to organize an Episcopal Society in Drewsville. The action was opposed by the town, but the petition was granted.

In 1813 the voters turned down an article to buy a stove for the meeting house.

In 1818 and 1819 the voters were unanimous in their opposition to dividing the county. They had previously tried unsuccessfully to have Walpole made the shire town, even raising a considerable amount of money for a court house.

Care of the poor was still being auctioned to the lowest bidder. There begins to be some inclination to elect an overseer of the poor.

**GLEBE ACTION:** In 1808 Roger Vose was chosen agent for the town to defend the suit brought by the Society for Propagating the Gospel against certain tenants in Langdon. The public lands (Glebe) had been sold at various times—to pay Mr. Fessenden, to buy the meeting house bell, etc. Apparently the town lost this suit and in 1815 a committee was appointed



to procure a lease of the public lands for John Prentiss and others, "the lands which had been recovered in a suit against John Prentiss and others in the name of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts and also to get the best terms in their power from the said John Prentiss and others how they would settle with the town and take the risk upon themselves." In 1819 the committee reported "that they have procured a lease in the name of said John Prentiss and running to him for 999 years from certain Trustees of Donations &c and have received from said Prentiss (but not from others) proposals in writing which are herewith exhibited and recommend to the Town to accept the same and to pass the following vote: that the selectmen be authorized and directed to pay to the said John Prentiss out of the money already collected or due to the town for the sale of the Publick Lands socalled, the sum of \$1000 and interest from July 1, 1818 and deliver to him the lease mentioned in his said proposals, provided the said Prentiss complies with the terms and fulfills on his part the conditions mentioned in his proposals." This vote fulfilled the proposals made by Prentiss, and *apparently* the matter was settled.

1827 the first checklist in town was prepared and used, 412 names.

In 1831 the town ceased to elect tythingmen.

An Act adopted by the General Court Jan. 4, 1833, provided that the constable must post a bond in an amount approved by the selectmen, not less than \$50 nor more than \$1000, and provided for suing the constable in the case of default, malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance. The town adopted this act.

1836 Refused to adopt Act of June 27, 1835, on preventing small pox. They were trying to raise part of the highway money in cash and succeeded only for emergencies.

1836 A resolution was passed to close the accounts on books of the selectmen and town treasurer and that new accounts be opened—that hereafter all orders drawn on the town treasurer be numbered and recorded by the selectmen. In 1839 the selectmen were authorized to arrange the town records and furnish an index of the contents. There is no indication that this was done.

1837 Money was tight. Several accounts were not allowed; highway surveyors delinquent for the past five years were ordered to make returns to the selectmen.

1837 February 6, at a special meeting voted to receive, in accordance with Acts of Congress and the State Legislature, Walpole's proper proportion of the public moneys of the United States which may be de-



posited with the state and pledged faith of the town for safekeeping and repayment of same. Josiah Bellows 3rd was chosen agent to receive the money which was to be loaned in amounts not exceeding \$300 to any individual, preference to Walpole inhabitants. Josiah Bellows 3rd, Frederick Vose and William Buffum were the committee to lend the money, to receive  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  for compensation, to make a yearly exhibit of the state of the funds. First, the interest was used to defray town debts incurred by the judgments against the town in connection with the accident at Cold River Bridge, then the principal. More was used toward building the new bridge at Drewsville (1839), as ordered by the court, and the last of the fund went toward building the New Keene Road (Rt. 12) (1839). This was referred to as the Surplus Fund.

1840 "To allow Unitarian Society under direction of a committee appointed by the town (Anan Evans, Joseph Mason, Nehemiah Giles) to alter meeting house by laying a floor over the center thereof on a level with the top sill of the gallery, and to finish off the upper part for a room for worship for the use of their society provided the consent of the pew holders is first had and obtained, and that the society have the privilege of using all materials not wanted for use of the town." The lower floor of the meeting house sloped and discussion became heated when the suggestion was made that they make the floor level.

1841 First election of County Road Commissioners. Article "To see what measures if any the Town will take to recover the Iron Cannon heretofore put into the hands of Thomas C. Drew for safe keeping and since secretly and forcibly taken from him by certain individuals." Action "That the selectmen call on the man or men at Acworth and get the cannon if they can."

1842 Selectmen directed "to let all poor, chargeable to this town, to one person at such place and on such terms as in their opinion shall be most advantageous to the poor and the town, and to let all such cases as are now assisted by this town that the county are supposed to be liable to pay for in separate contracts from that of the Town's poor." Beginning in 1841 there were positive votes to buy a town farm for the care of the poor. It was voted to buy a farm in 1844.

In 1846 the following rules were made for "Government of inmates of House at Town Farm: 1) Every inmate, when able, shall be diligently employed under the supervision of the overseer; 2) Shall not leave the premises with the intention of returning without leave of absence; 3) Shall not bring into house ardent spirits of any kind; 4) Shall be pun-



ished for rule breaking by hard labor and such reasonable correction as a parent may lawfully inflict upon a refractory child."

1842 Article "To appoint an agent at the expense of the town to defend Capt. John N. Hodskins and others who were indited for clearing the Town's Common in Walpole Village of the Fence and trees put thereon without authority from the town." Action: Voted at an adjourned meeting not to appoint an agent, but "in order to suppress excitement, allay animosity, and restore peace and good feeling among the people of the town" to dismiss the article and to have steps taken to have the case discontinued.

1842 This year and for several years there was a rash of selling property for taxes.

1843 It was the duty of the selectmen at this time to file with the Town Clerk (agreeable to Chapter 25 Sec. 18 of Revised Statutes) "the list of voters used at the annual meeting with the names of all the rateable polls in said town not included in said list written upon the back thereof." 483 voters, 507 total rateable polls.

The selectmen were to settle with the agent of the Church upon the best terms they can and obtain a discharge. (See Churches)

1844 Voted to change meeting house belonging to town to a form and position suitable for town purposes, the selectmen to purchase for the town the interests of the pew holders.

Voted to purchase a hearse sleigh; to enlarge the village burying ground. In 1849 voted again to enlarge the burying ground "To buy, fence and lay out for a town cemetery the lot of land called the grove adjoining the burying ground near Walpole Village. . . ."

1844 Apparently there was some trouble in town meeting for the following was adopted: "Rules governing Town Meeting in Walpole, Voted that every person on entering the Hall shall take a seat, also, that no person shall stand upon the seats or Railing, that no person shall speak while another is speaking to interrupt him, that no one shall stand up directly before the person speaking, that every voter when he has delivered his Ballot shall repair immediately to his seat, there shall be no standing about the Selectmen's desk after the Balloting is over."

1845 An overseer of the poor was elected, but in 1848 the duties again devolved upon the selectmen.

1845 Each family was allowed one cow to run in the highway, other animals prohibited.

1846 Began to have ballots with names of officers, balloted one day, adjourned to following day for other business.



1846 Chose Jesseniah Kittredge agent for vaccination.

Aug. 4, 1846 Licensed Messrs. Welch and Mann to exhibit their circus, having paid \$30 therefor.

1847 Dispensed with pound keeper, hog reeves, cullers of staves, appropriated *money* for highways.

1848 Voted 147-123 against licensing for sale of wine and spirituous liquors except for medicinal use.

1848 Voted to print report of school committee, one for each family, plus 24. Next year 400 copies.

1848 Votes for President: Democratic Republican 163, Whig 134, Free Soil 47—Total 352.

1849 Turned down an article to have a celebration of the centennial of the founding of the town.

1852 First mention of town auditors. Previously there had been a committee chosen to "settle with" the town officers.

1853 Voted to give permission to individuals or clubs or companies to set out shade and ornamental trees upon the borders of the Common, the sides of the streets and vacant public spots of land in Walpole Village and to protect trees by boxing or fencing until they have become rooted.

1853 Spalding & Rogers North American Circus and one side show licensed for one day September 27.

1854 The town was now receiving railroad tax.

1855 On petition of 67 legal voters the selectmen set bounds of a precinct (for fire protection). (See Walpole Fire Department)

1858 Voted to put up street signs, with streets bounded and named.

1859 Adopted law respecting right to choose police (had ceased to elect constables). Three were chosen.

1861 Selectmen to stop illegal sale of all spirituous liquors in town.

1869 Voted to abolish the liquor agency, settle with the agent and dispose of the liquor on hand.

1862 Committee chosen to investigate what should be done about the poor farm; 1867 voted to sell it, but after it was sold the town was in a dilemma what to do with the poor yet always voted against establishment of a county farm.

1865 Voted to buy a fire and burglar-proof safe. Town treasurer was exonerated from all blame in loss of Fox legacy and Literary Fund stolen from the bank safe Nov. 18, 1864.

1867 Decided to remove bell from Meeting House on the hill to a safe place; in 1869 voted to put it on the Town House. (This Revere bell was damaged beyond repair in town hall fire.)





## *Old Walpole Town Farm*

In February 1876 twenty people met in the parlor of the Wentworth to move toward installing street lights for the village. They formed the Walpole Street Lighting Association and in April brought before the precinct meeting a proposal whereby the association would provide the lights if the precinct would maintain them. The offer was turned down 40-28. From the items it may be inferred that the prime movers were women who could vote in their association meetings, but not in precinct or town meetings, even though they were taxpayers.

In November 1876 it was so dry that 30-40 families were without water. As a result a pump was installed in the fork of the road near Henry Allen's harness shop.

In 1871 there was consideration of making overtures to have a state normal school established in Walpole, but nothing came of it. For the first time there was a separate appropriation for care of poor, although they were still the responsibility of the selectmen.

In 1872 voted that no circus or menagerie shall exhibit on the Village Common. Baseball seems to have been allowed on the Common. There is the first mention of selling state bonds, apparently the town had the proceeds.



In 1873 the town was receiving from the state the Bank Tax, Railroad Tax and Literary Fund.

An article to repair the town hall appeared in the warrant perennially, until finally in November 1878 they weakened to the extent of buying new lights. However, the selectmen went ahead and had the plaster repaired and whitewashed. They procured chandeliers and other lamps "to light the hall suitably for any entertainment so the neighbors won't be obliged to lend theirs."

Tramps were a common sight. In 1877 P. Murray was allowed to keep what was called the "Connecticut River Hotel" in the old toll house at the Village Bridge, for the accommodation of tramps.

In 1875 the moderator was paid for his services, for the first time—\$10. The amount was later reduced to \$5. A 4% discount was allowed on taxes paid by November 1.

1876 They were still electing (or in case not elected, appointed by the selectmen) Sealer of Weights & Measures, Pound Keeper, Fence Viewers, Surveyor of Lumber, Measurer of Wood, Cemetery Commission, Superintending School Committee, Railroad Police Officers according to law. They allowed 20¢ per hour for work on the road, reduced to 15¢ in 1878.

In 1879 refused to pass a bylaw regarding dogs; voted to exempt from taxation for five years a steam saw and grist mill that would locate in town; voted not to prohibit the sale of cider, lager beer and other malt beverages in accordance with Chap. 109 of the General Laws of New Hampshire.

In 1879 George Aldrich proposed to the town "to furnish historical matter relating to the history of Walpole, sufficient to make an octavo volume of four hundred pages and sell the same to the inhabitants of the town for seventy five cents per copy,—provided the town will raise the sum of Five hundred dollars to be expended in printing and binding as many copies as can be provided for the above named sum." The proposal was accepted and \$500 appropriated.

VILLAGE BRIDGE. In 1870 Voted "That the town authorize their selectmen to unite with the selectmen of Westminster in purchasing the real estate, easement of franchise of the Walpole and Westminster Bridge Company if in their judgment the public good requires a highway at or near the place occupied by such Bridge now or recently; the vote standing, Affirmative 218, Negative 9". The appropriation was \$3000, to which was added another \$3000 in June. A fine of \$2 was to be charged anyone



driving or riding over the bridge faster than a walk (later increased to \$3), and Christian B. Lucke was the agent for enforcement.

How early Walpole had sidewalks is obscure. The first highway money to be used for sidewalks was in 1876, but there were sidewalks before that. In 1873 when Ephraim Barker’s horse died in the winter the correspondent wondered “What shall we do now for paths on the sidewalk?” In January 1874 there was a severe snowstorm and Mr. Maynard had to drive two horses tandem to break paths on the sidewalks. In 1879 “Sidewalks are a disgrace. Cows are grazing on the Common contrary to law.”

Each year during the 1880’s there was an article to see if the town would accept the provisions for licensing dogs, but the article was voted down. Dogs were taxed.

Tax exemption was extended to manufacturing concerns that would settle in town and employ ten or more hands, later raised to fifteen hands.

1880 Voted selectmen not to exceed \$300 for repairing town house; build platform, purchase lights, chairs, provide for ventilating, build an outhouse, etc. In 1883 voted to consult an architect on whether to repair town house or build new. In 1884 the voters turned down a proposition to alter the town house, but then voted 173-142 against building a new brick town house. Another attempt was made at a special meeting in April but without success. The subject was brought up again in 1886. The proposal to build new was again turned down, but vote carried to appropriate \$8000 for repairing the old house. The vote was unanimous to raise \$1000 by taxes, borrow the balance. Following is the account rendered 1887:

Repairs on Town House, Heating and Lighting and Furnishing Same:

To Smith & Allen, contractors	\$7950.00
Due when roof and steps are completed	50.00
To W. P. Wentworth, architect	125.00
Amount for heating, lighting, furnishing	1216.52
	<hr/>
	\$9341.52

In 1888 it was proposed to build a lock-up in the Town House basement; November 1888 voted to buy piece of land and build a lock-up, \$300.

1880 saw the beginning of fall biennial elections, electing Supervisors of the Checklist and Representatives to the General Court.

1881 voted \$100 to construct a reservoir north of the Town House for



fire protection; instructed selectmen to mail town reports to all voters three days before town meeting; and to confer with other towns on freeing Tucker Bridge.

1882 Passed over an article to allow residents to fence the Common. In 1887 voted to discontinue the crossroads over the Common from end of Middle Street northwest, from Westminster Street at northeast corner, southwest, and diagonally by the Town House; and to prohibit baseball on the Common.

1883 A Fire District was set off in North Walpole, but apparently action was not completed, repeated 1886. (See Town Records P. 146.)

1884 Fish and Game Wardens were added to the list of elected town officers; in 1888 Agent for Town House; in 1889 Board of Health (may have been previously, but not noted). It became the custom now to elect the selectmen, and leave to them the appointment of the rest of the town officers. Adopted provisions allowing selectmen to deliver inventory blanks before March 20. Began appropriating \$50 for decorating the graves of those who died in the Rebellion, under charge of selectmen. In 1921 this became Memorial Day and appropriation made for exercises.

1889 \$300 voted for improving streets and protecting property from surface water North Walpole.

1888 "Voted that the selectmen be instructed to investigate the subject of breaking winter roads, and, if the interest of the town requires it, to purchase one or more rollers." 1890 15¢ per hour allowed for man and team on the highway.

1892 voted tax exemption for three years to any manufacturing concern coming into town, employing not less than ten hands; licensed Dennis Brennan to keep pool table "to be used for hire, gain or amusement, but not for the purpose of gaming for money or other property. Said table not to be used between the hours of ten P.M. and seven A.M. . . . to be located in the basement of the house owned by John Pierce. . . ." Fee \$10, same for a billiard table.

1893 Committee appointed to confer with the railroad authorities as to the best method of protecting highway crossings . . . Josiah G. Bellows, Horace A. Perry, Patrick E. Griffin, Albert F. Nims, Timothy Bowen; Board of Health with approval of Selectmen ruled that no swine should be kept in or about slaughterhouses May 1 to December 1, and during that period all offal and refuse from slaughtering must be buried within 24 hours.

1895 Adopted rules and salary schedule for town officers: Board of Selectmen \$500 plus expenses, to meet monthly, the one residing in village



to have charge of Town House; Treasurer \$30; Collector \$100; Supervisors \$75 for two years; Road Agent 25¢ per hour, to furnish his own transportation, to render account monthly; School Board \$140; Superintending School Committee \$20; Moderator \$5 for each meeting at which he presides; to have one road agent instead of three voted to borrow on the credit of the town in anticipation of taxes; to use the Australian Ballot system of voting; to allow discounts on taxes of 6% before July 1, 5½% before August 1, 5% before September 1, 4½% before October 1, 4% before November 1; to issue and distribute through the mails the Town Reports at least five days before town meeting. Part of the cemetery appropriation was to be used at Drewsville.

1896 North Walpole Fire District adopted Chap. 53 Public Statutes of New Hampshire; voted to borrow \$3000 for construction of sidewalks.

1897 Selectmen authorized to accept cemetery legacies. Only heads of families and owners of homesteads in the town were entitled to select Lots in Village Cemetery, but selectmen might extend privilege to all residents of the town upon request. N. A. Wheeler was appointed town liquor agent. Adopted Chap. 78 Laws of 1897 "An Act in amendment of the Public Statutes relating to the manner of conducting caucuses and elections" for town officers as provided in Sec. 8.

1898 The committee appointed to investigate the utility of a stone crusher for use in repairing highways reported favorably and it was voted to instruct the road agent to build a short piece of road with crushed stone, purchasing the same, as an experiment. The above committee also reported their investigation of the efficacy of snow-rollers and other means of breaking roads in winter, so it was voted to instruct the selectmen to purchase two snow-rollers for the use of the town. (They used as many as six pairs of horses to draw a roller over Ramsay Hill.)

1900 Selectmen were to see about putting a pump in town house kitchen and repair vane. Selectmen's salaries were raised from \$500 to \$600. Treasurer and tax collector were being appointed regularly, rather than elected.

1901 Voted to see about enlargement of Village Cemetery; to divide town into old highway districts; to seed down Common north of Middle Street. Vaccinating physicians appointed were E. W. Johnson, John T. Rudden, F. H. Connor.

1902 Prayer was offered at opening of town meeting and became the practice for many years.

1903 Voted to exempt from taxation the proposed Walpole Electric Light and Power Company; \$200 for Old Home Day, 150th anniversary



of settlement of town; \$400 to buy road scraper; to eliminate grade crossings North Walpole (See Records Secretary of State's Office, Concord); for liquor license 210-102. Adopted resolution: That it is the sense of this meeting that all telephone and telegraph wires used along the highways in the village district of Walpole be attached to trees and buildings wherever it is practicable to do so without detriment to good service. Wherever it is necessary to erect poles within the village district it is the desire of this meeting that the selectmen shall consult with the Village Commissioners as to the location and quality of the poles erected.

1904 Rockingham having voted \$25,000, Walpole voted not to exceed \$45,000 to purchase from the Bellows Falls Canal Company real estate, easement and franchise of the Tucker Toll Bridge and to build a new iron highway bridge between North Walpole and Bellows Falls above the dam of the Canal Company. Voted to furnish state with map of roads when called upon; \$200 to repair town hall; license to Walpole Water & Sewer Company to dig trenches, lay water and sewer pipes and to occupy the streets of Walpole Village for any reasonable purpose for the construction of its system; to wire town hall for electricity.

1905 Voted to erect and maintain watering trough at Cold River; to widen Church Street in North Walpole from River Street to Merchant Street underpasses; to build stonewall between street and railroad and demand railroad pay proportionate share; to repudiate action of selectmen in accepting underpasses and demand that they be properly constructed, drained and ventilated before acceptance (North Walpole); selectmen to meet at North Walpole and Walpole regularly. Adopted town seal for bonds.

1906 An unsuccessful attempt was made to raise liquor license fees. Adopted Chap. 93 Laws of 1905 Political Caucus and Conventions. Voted to elect tax assessors 1907 (rescinded 1908). Town clerk's salary was raised from \$50 to \$100.

1907 Selectmen were to borrow \$7000 to pay floating debt of the town, at  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ , to be repaid October 1908 \$1000, then \$1500 each year. Foreseeing extensive street changes in North Walpole by the railroad, voted a committee of five to work with the selectmen on all railroad matters, empowered to procure suitable counsel to represent the town on all railroad matters, and authorized to draw on the treasurer to pay for same (Charles H. Slade, George W. Roland, James Hartnett, Robert Howard, Daniel Connors). Cold River Bridge burned on the night of May 18—William I. King, P. E. Griffin, John W. Prentiss, George E. Sherman, Daniel Connors



were the committee to work with selectmen "to take the manner of rebuilding."

1908 Voted to have a policeman in North Walpole on duty 1 P.M. to midnight, to be health and truant officer and paid \$50 per month; \$100 for Old Home Day; to establish line between Walpole and Vermont.

1909 After refusing for several years, accepted state highway aid.

1910 Voted not to accept state highway aid. Selectmen were authorized to borrow in anticipation of taxes; to go to court over care and maintenance of subways at North Walpole. The Village Bridge between Walpole and Westminster burned. At special meeting April 21 chose committee of five (selectmen Daniel Connors, Charles H. Slade, Harry Jennison; and John W. Prentiss and Clifford Sturtevant) to work with a similar committee from Westminster to get specifications and bids for a new bridge. John W. Prentiss was chosen chairman, John P. Holmes vice chairman and Clifford L. Sturtevant clerk of the joint committee. Reported at a special meeting June 4 comparative costs for concrete bridge, steel truss bridge, steel girder bridge, covered wooden bridge. In regard to the last they reported that one could be built for about \$21,000 but "unable to find any old-time bridge contractor who would make an estimate on a wooden, covered bridge, or agree to construct." The committee reported that the west pier was plumb, but that the east pier was tilted 6 inches to the west. When it was built more than 50 loads of rocks were said to have been dumped around the crib forming the foundation, but on the west side of the east pier all had washed away.

Of the 665 legal voters in town 333 cast their ballots with only two opposed the reconstruction of the bridge, steel girder type, appropriation—\$24,000. Consideration was given to eliminating the grade crossing at the depot, but this problem was not solved, although it seemed that an overpass below the depot would be preferable to an underpass to the north.

First Direct Primary.

1912 Voted to give up road agent system and adopt district system of maintaining highways.

1913 Voted to raise \$5000 each year to cover cost of Canal Company suit. Selectmen granted petition to lay following sewers in North Walpole: from residence of John Aylward on Elm Street, westerly on Elm Street to land of Mrs. Alfred Godsoe, on land of International Paper Company to Connecticut River; from residence of Lawrence Delaney on Church Street northerly to Elm Street. Old town records sent to Concord to be copied.



1914 Building of state road from Tucker Bridge to Alstead line, known as South Side Boulevard. Voted \$500 for suppression of Brown Tail Moth and Tent Caterpillar on highways and public places; \$600 for building vault for storage of records; to buy cook stove for Town Hall; Town Hall to be free to school children; to contract with Keene hospital for care of indigent.

1915 Voted \$350 for piano for upper Town Hall.

1916 Warren D. Knowlton, Herbert D. Gale and William J. Hall took oath of office as Trustees of Trust Funds, thereafter one was elected each year for three year term. Notice of claim for damages by Bert Tufts for automobile accident on Middle Road (Rt. 12).

1917 Voted to go back to one road agent; \$800 to patrol state road. Adopted resolution commending President Wilson's course to protect the lives and property of fellow citizens against attacks upon the sea. Elected Public Safety Committee: Frank A. Spaulding, William J. Corbett, William H. Kiniry, Edward M. Holden, Charles H. Barnes. Voted extension of time to 1921 for completion of the road of the Walpole and Alstead Street Railway Company approved March 30, 1911, amended Chap. 313 Laws of 1915.

"Thursday, June 14, 1917, the Town Hall was struck by lightning and burned on this day and was a total loss as far as the building was concerned. The old bell was badly broken. The full insurance of \$9000 was allowed on the building and \$718 on the furniture."

July 5 Special town meeting: Voted 58-31 to build a new two-story building; elected Fred O. Smalley, Edward M. Holden, Willie G. Leonard and the selectmen a committee to bring in plans and estimates at an adjourned meeting in two weeks.

October 4 at a special meeting in St. John's Hall a resolution was presented to appropriate the insurance money and \$15,000 to rebuild and furnish the Town Hall complete and ready for use, to modify the plans as necessary to keep within the appropriation. Balloting proceeded at this meeting, at an adjourned meeting October 6 at Russell Hall, North Walpole, October 8 at the school house in Drewsville, October 10 at Russell Hall where it was finally concluded with a total of 331 votes cast, Yes 324, No 7. (It was necessary to have a majority of the legal voters voting.) Miss Fannie Mason paid for the plans for the building. It was voted to sell the old bell.

1918 Voted to transfer Connecticut River Bridge rights to state if state will maintain. License voting has ceased—Prohibition.

1920 Voted \$1048 for Soldiers' Bonus; \$700 for reshingling toll bridge;



to limit weight of loaded auto trucks and 4-horse teams crossing bridge; uncollectable poll taxes prior to 1919 to be abated and all soldiers' poll taxes prior to 1919; to rescind manufacturer's tax exemption (new motion failed of passage); not to give Chautauqua free use of Town Hall; \$500 for bronze plaque to honor those who served World War. F. A. Ramsay of Walpole, C. J. Newell of Alstead and Mr. Hale of Langdon appointed a committee to report at a future meeting on the best method of repairing the Langdon Bridge at Drewsville; Annette Bowman and Maude R. King appointed Ballot clerks, first women to serve in office in Walpole, other than on library committee. Voting district was set up at North Walpole, for biennial elections only.

1921 Selectmen had been elected each year, now one to be elected each year for three year term. Voted \$400 for oiling streets, equally divided between Village and North Walpole; to reconstruct road through Langdon Bridge \$1000. Margaret Sparhawk appointed Deputy Town Clerk.

1922 Accepted provisions for Monadnock Road (Rt. 12) maintenance. Voted to pay freight on cannon and balls to be placed around Memorial Tablet on Common; to build curbing to protect library lawn from autos.

1923 "Mr. Philip H. Faulkner Town Counsel explained the controversy which the town has had for years with the Bellows Falls Canal Company over the matter of taxation. In 1912 taxes were paid under protest, on an increased valuation, and an appeal made to the Superior Court. Through an agreement with the town the valuation was reduced, but the question was raised as to whether the tax should be paid by the Canal Company as owners of the water rights or by the Bellows Falls mill owners who lease those rights. As a result of the failure to agree four suits were pending against the town of Walpole at this time. Mr. Faulkner submitted a proposition which was acceptable to the Canal Company and the State Tax Commission and favored by the selectmen. The proposition was: That the 1923 tax remain as it was, 1924 the valuation should be reduced to \$600,000, and the Canal Company would drop all suits against the town. After next year the town could begin with a clean slate." Voted \$400 for white pine blister rust control; liquor permit for druggists; to erect scales; hearing on establishment of Bird & Game Sanctuary on land of Copley Amory; \$140 for street lights in Drewsville; to let road agent decide about buying truck.

1926 Voted \$45,000 to complete Monadnock Road in Walpole. Elected library committee for the first time, for three, two and one year terms.

1927 Treasurer and tax collector now elected. This was a period of extensive road improvement, not only trunk line and/or state roads, but



graveling and draining other roads. These improvements were covered by articles in the warrants, the warrants becoming longer and longer.

1928 Voted up to \$2000 for oiling streets; 4 burner oil stove for Town Hall kitchen; \$500 for snow fence (first).

1929 Voted to widen stone arch bridge over Cold River; \$100 to trim shade trees in the village, moderator broke the tie; to take money from Quinton fund for stage improvement in Town Hall. Con Harty appointed Forest Fire Warden and moderator appointed 12 to Budget Committee.

1930 Appropriation made for white pine blister rust control as required by law. Tucker Bridge declared unsafe, court granted petition for special town meeting to act on a replacement. Voted selectmen be authorized to enter into a contract to replace the Tucker Bridge if Rockingham will pay one-third and the State of New Hampshire three-fifths of two-thirds of the cost, and to raise \$30,000 as Walpole's share. This was later covered by a gift in memory of Charles Nathaniel Vilas and it became the Vilas Memorial Bridge.

1931 Voted curtain and other necessities for Town Hall stage; \$5000 for tractor for highway. The budget committee was dismissed; the moderator and selectmen to appoint fifteen members from different parts of town.

1932 Voted \$1500 to oil improved town roads; to accept Chap. 156 p. 176 Laws of 1931 in regard to Sunday Sports; in August to have joint Washington Celebration and Old Home Day. Court granted petition for special town meeting to vote emergency funds for pauper relief. Voted to borrow money from state without interest for permanent improvement of County Road.

1933 Voted 10% reduction of salaries of all town officers except Town Clerk, Treasurer, Tax Collector; property taxpayers to be given preference when work is available. Court granted permission for special town meeting to act upon repair of Village Bridge over Connecticut River, the State Highway Department having declared that it must be repaired to be safe for travel. At a special meeting October 10 voted \$20,000 for project. Adjourned meetings were held every two weeks until February 23 when the town accepted an agreement whereby the United States Government would grant 30% of the cost of labor and material, not to exceed \$9000; adjourned meetings continued to be held every two weeks until December 18, 1934, when "All transactions in regard to building of the bridge having been completed, this meeting was dissolved."

1934 Town officers' salaries were restored to former level; laborers were working for the town at 40¢ per hour. 234-90 voted in favor of state liquor store; 181-102 in favor of sale of beverages.



1935 Voted \$7000 for oiling streets and roads; \$500 for protection of shade trees (became custom); turned down Municipal Budget Act.

1936 Voted to match funds for Class V Roads; to erect building for town equipment. First absentee ballots received. There were stirrings for a professional audit.

1938 Voted \$750 to repair brick shop for jail, after votes to sell and build elsewhere; \$365 to Monadnock District Association for advertising; selectmen to sell property for non-payment of taxes; \$500 for WPA material and equipment, and further sums from 1937 surplus; not to hold town meeting at North Walpole in odd years; Old Age Assistance \$2500.

1939 State road aid was available on a matching basis, 50-50, Walpole continued through 1940 to take this aid rather than aid for Class V in which the matching was much more advantageous to the town. This year and the next the town refused to pay rent for the land for storage of logs and lumber of the Timber Salvage Administration (hurricane). Voted \$500 to replace public trees lost in the village by the hurricane, to be equal number of maple and elm; to appropriate a like sum for the care of the trees.

1940 Voted \$2000 for Mousley Hospital, later \$200 for Elliot Hospital, Keene, and \$800 for Rockingham Hospital, Bellows Falls, for a few years.

1941 Committee studying erosion at North Walpole reports readings annually. During this period the warrants were comparatively short.

1943 Polls usually closed at 6 P.M., this year were kept open until 9 P.M. for war workers.

1944 Committee of women was appointed to study need for new range for Town Hall kitchen and report to selectmen, to be paid for out of Quinton fund or other available money. Voted \$200 to pay selectmen at \$5 per day for appraising wood and timber land separately. Oliver Hubbard reported that Walpole had exceeded its War Loan Drive quota of \$252,000 by \$64,000.

“In honor of more than 280 men and women now serving in the armed services, and in memory of the five who have given their lives, there was a reverent moment of silence while everyone stood at attention. Gone, but reverently remembered, were Raymond Wallace, Philip B. Harris, Hoyt Wilson, Bruce A. Gilbo, Edward Naski.”

Perambulation of Westmoreland line found that old markers were not all in a straight line. The Selectmen had assistance of two surveyors. Finally they decided to go by the ones on the Henry Houghton road and near the River Road in Chickering pasture, others not too important.

1945 Voted “. . . To support United States membership in a general



system of international cooperation, such as that proposed at the Dunbarton Oaks Conference, having police power to maintain the peace of the world." Yes 58, No 3. Also voted \$3000 to buy Andrew Griffin land to enlarge cemetery. After a lively discussion in the budget meeting, finally recommended "that the town vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for establishing of a surplus fund for building a school house." Favorable vote 58-37. Continued the next year, then the court ruled it out of order, and money was turned over to School District.

1946 Appointed committee to study making a swimming pool in Cold River area but finally gave up idea because of pollution.

1947 Voted \$500 for new dishes, \$300 for Town Hall, \$200 for Russell Hall; North Walpole precinct to have garbage and rubbish collection.

1948 Voted \$500 for kitchen equipment Russell Hall; selectmen's salaries to \$500; four new street lights for Drewsville.

1949 Walpole Village District Nursing Association incorporated (Miss Mason had supported the Association, left \$20,000 to Association, need for more formal organization). Miss Fannie Mason willed timberland to town. Passed over article for 200th Anniversary celebration. Voted \$1500 for flashing light signals at Depot Crossing, railroad to pay balance; \$3000 to install heating system Town Hall; \$1500 to replenish books North Walpole library replacing books lost in fire; \$4000 to replace so-called Smalley Bridge on River Road; to convey 24 acre tract to School District for High and Elementary Schools and playground. Margaret MacG. Sparhawk retired after serving as town clerk since 1923 (her records were exceptionally good). Voted \$1000 to buy land to enlarge water supply.

1950 Zoning ordinance adopted for North Walpole. Voted \$4000 to replace Wallace Warn Bridge foot of Tiffany Hill. Passed over article to build vault and town clerk's office at town hall. "Mr. Cray requested that all stand for one minute in respect and appreciation for the many things that the families of Ira, Oliver, Austin and Donald Hubbard had done for the town of Walpole."

1951 Voted \$2500 for new bridge at the foot of March Hill; \$640 for new safe for selectmen. E. Everett Rhodes retired after 10 years as town treasurer.

1952 Longest warrant, 28 articles. Warrants became much shorter when the commonly traveled roads had been black-topped, repair and maintenance not being matters requiring votes in town meeting. Adopted Social Security provisions for town employees. Voted \$2500 to repair back walls of Village Bridge; \$500 to purchase addition to the village cemetery, 4.84 acres north of Cemetery Road and east of Rt. 12; \$5.00 to re-



move or repair old brick shop on Turnpike Street; \$500 for observance of 200th Anniversary. Rescinded vote discontinuing High Street, since houses were built there after the previous vote was taken, and there was need for the street.

1953 Voted \$7,312 to buy Hough Payloader; \$1700 to install heating system town garage. Increased town officers' salaries: Selectmen \$500 to \$750; Treasurer \$125 to \$250; Tax Collector \$325 to \$500; Town Clerk \$125 to \$250; Supervisors \$25 to \$50.

1954 Voted \$100 for Civil Defense; \$500 for recreation program (250 each village).

1955 Voted \$500 for library equipment; \$1500 for bringing Walpole History up to date, continued each year except 1961; to allow a portion of the Common to be used as a playground, to be restricted to area south of the sidewalk; \$2500 added to \$3000 which had been found inadequate for painting Village Bridge. The State took over before the money was expended.

1956 Voted to tar and improve new road to new development near North Walpole school.

1959 Voted \$100 for Dutch elm disease control and shade tree protection; \$25 for opening and maintaining trails and old roads for forest fire protection, New Hampshire Forestry & Recreation Commission supplying matching funds.

1961 Voted \$8500 for new addition to Bridge Memorial Library; turned down article for bronze plaque for World War II Memorial.

1962 Voted to discontinue old section of Rt. 12 from Cecil Patch's to Cold River Bridge; \$3500 for preparation and writing of Town History.

## SCHOOLS

In 1768 it was voted to have three schools in town for the winter season and to raise £15 to support them. Joseph Barrett, John Marcy and Samuel Trott were chosen a committee to take care of the schools. In 1769 the town was divided into three districts, each to have the benefit of its own money. In 1770 Col. Bellows, John Marcy and Jonathan Hall were chosen a committee to appoint the places for building three school-houses, each district to build its own according as they pay their rates to the school. This same committee was to "Notify the People and See that the School Houses are built." According to *AH* 42-3 these were built 1) Where Josiah Bellows' house stood 1879, the building later moved to the west side of Washington Square, what was later the house of Moses Q. Watkins (#75). Ebenezer Swan taught here, the first male teacher in



town; 2) Near Cold River, no indication where; 3) In the Valley, probably south side of the road east of the old Robie house (#552). Wherever this school was, there were "rising 80" pupils.

In 1775 there were four districts: Hill, South, East, North. There seems to have been none on Carpenter Hill, for those living within two miles of the southeast corner of the town were allowed to have the money raised upon them for the use of a school to be laid out for that use among themselves. Those living in what later became #5 were allowed the same privilege in 1776. A school does not mean a schoolhouse.

In 1785 each district was empowered to choose a committee within the district to draw their proportion of school money and lay it out for schooling within the district and to settle with their own collectors. The number of collectors varied up to twelve.

In 1788 £15 was appropriated for singing in school, the committee to get a master and regulate.

In the early days the only textbooks were N. E. Primer, The Psalter, Dodworth's Spelling Book, and the New Testament.

In 1806 the bounds of eleven districts were described in the records in accordance with state law. These bounds continued through the years except for minor changes and the setting up of three additional districts. In 1834 thirteen districts are described with a list of the taxpayers in each district, an invaluable help in checking the homesteads of that period. (See appendix)

#### DISTRICT #1, WALPOLE VILLAGE

About 1807 a brick schoolhouse was erected on the northwest corner of what are now Westminster and Elm Streets where St. John's Church stands. It was a plain but substantial two-story building with three school rooms and a commodious hall for public exhibitions (second floor). On each end was a wooden woodshed containing also the sanitary arrangements.

Judge Bellows wrote: "One of the schoolrooms on the lower floor was intended merely for the primary grades and was filled with long, low benches on which the poor babes could sit while they studied their a-b-c's. I remember one other used for the higher classes which was furnished with desks made of pine wood with lids which shut down over the box in which the occupants kept their books, slates and other apparatus for study and also for play. Every desk showed the artistic marks of the jackknives of its succeeding occupants. What a noise arose whenever school began its daily session and when work was done, from the slam-



ming down of the covers of those desks. Every child threw all his or her energy into the task for the preparation of closing up . . .

“During my brief period of attendance at this temple of learning Ellen Nichols kept the school. She was young and very attractive and had the usual number of beaux, among whom was the then village beau par excellence, Percy Bellows, brother of the late Dr. Henry W. Bellows, distinguished for his good looks and charming manners . . . One bright summer morning when we were all assembled for school we saw our teacher coming along the street accompanied by Percy, arrayed in fresh spring attire—white duck trousers predominating. When we saw them approach the most of the pupils took their seats according to the order of those days; but a dozen or so of the boys remained outside and climbed up into the top of the woodshed through which Miss Nichols was to enter her classroom. And at the very moment her gallant escort in his most courtly manner was saying goodbye at the door, we set up a loud yell that would have shamed the aborigines. You can imagine the consternation of the two and how the blushes mantled the cheeks of the school marm.

“I can remember nothing more of consequence . . . except that in some of the rooms the part occupied by the pupils was raised by a series of steps so that all were in full view of the teacher, and how bothersome those steps were for our short legs.”

William G. Field, a lawyer residing in town, kept a select school here for several years between 1820 and 1831.

Henry Adams Bellows (later Chief Justice of New Hampshire) taught here after the death of his father in 1821. He lived with his mother in a modest house in Westminster and walked from there to school.

Thomas Sparhawk who came to Walpole 1769 is said to have followed his calling as a teacher for a time, probably before the erection of this building.

#### PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The district schools were considered of not much account by the elite who sent their children for private instruction. The children started school almost as soon as they could be led by the hand by an older child, even at three years. Judge Josiah G. Bellows wrote thus of his early school experiences:

“My older brother led me one morning down the street to the Wells house (#112). There some 12 or 15 children, none over 10 or 12, were assembled, and we entered upon our studies under the charge of Miss Annie Alcott, herself a girl not over 16.



Our schoolroom was the northeast chamber in the Wells house—rather a small room, identical in fact with the northeast chamber in my house (#96) for both were built on the same general plan.

“Our teacher was a very lovely and common sense girl and I presume did all she could to further our progress in the difficult fields then open to the youthful learner. I can’t remember distinctly when I learned to read, although I must have learned my letters even before this, but I do recollect how in my earliest years of school I used to struggle with that page of meaningless syllables beginning: a-ab; i-ib; etc. The results of the teaching were just the same and quite as speedy as those of the present (1904) day, and what a young one really learned stuck.

“Miss Alcott’s school did not last long, not more than a term, I think, and from there I went to three little schools. They must have been very much like the old dame schools, but I cannot recall the exact order in which they came.

“Marie Nichols kept school in a small building just in back of Mrs. Cota’s bakery (#90) now forming the large part of Mrs. Fisher’s house which stood on what is now High Street, a street then non-existent. Miss Nichols was rather a stern teacher. All I can remember of her is that every half hour or so during the day she used to take her ruler and march around and administer to almost every one of the pupils a slight ferruling. Although I was never punished in that way it must have done me good afterwards, for Miss Nichols’ school was quite remarkable for its order and the rapid advancement of its pupils in learning.

“Mrs. Walton Mead should be remembered, for she kept a similar school in her little house now a two-story building standing on the south side of Middle Street (#179). I remember of this school only the fact that Thomas B. Peck, a year or so younger than I, and myself were the youngest pupils and sat upon a very low and small wooden bench which Mrs. Mead’s husband, old Walton Mead, made for our special use.

“Then Miss Ann Weymouth and her school engaged me for a time. She kept school right at the foot of our hill in what is now Charlie Russell’s house.”

In the *Cheshire Gazette* 1825 there was this advertisement: “School for Young Ladies—Miss Wills—Will open a school in Walpole Village on the first Monday in May next, for instruction of Young Ladies. She will teach all the branches usually taught in schools of this kind including the useful and ornamental. Tuition \$3 per quarter.”

In 1798 John Hubbard was conducting a subscription school, advertised in the *Museum*.

#### WALPOLE ACADEMY

“Walpole Academy open for reception of scholars on April 18, 1825. The branches usually attended to in Academies will be taught. Tuition: Languages & higher branches of mathematics \$4 per quarter, for other branches \$3. No scholar will be received for a less term than half a quarter. Board may be had on reasonable terms, in respectable families. Wm. G. Field.” The above appeared in the *Cheshire Gazette*.



June 28, 1831 a charter was granted to Thomas Bellows, Abel Bellows, Nehemiah Giles et al. to establish Walpole Academy. There was a board of seven honorary trustees, but the active management was in the hands of an executive committee—Rev. Wm. A. Whitwell, Jacob N. Knapp (the leading spirit, having conducted a famous school in Brighton and Jamaica Plain before settling on his farm in Walpole), Abel Bellows, Josiah Bellows 3rd, Ebenezer Morse, Frederick Vose and Leonard Bisco.

In 1895 George M. Morse, son of Dr. Morse, recalled that Abel Bellows, Aaron P. Howland and Dr. Morse formed the active committee that proceeded with construction of a building, the present Historical Society Building, on the site which they had obtained. "In digging for the cellar on a sandy knoll they came upon a wooden bin half full of a white substance like white lead paint as sold in kegs. Since there was an embargo on all spirits from Great Britain during the War of 1812, Caleb Bellows conceived the idea of making whiskey from potatoes. He purchased a copper still (later in an outbuilding on the Nat Holland farm), bought several hundred bushels of potatoes, dug this pit, stored the potatoes until spring. The war was over before he put his scheme into operation. The price of whiskey dropped, he left the potatoes where they were. Only the starch was left, and the odor—the committee carried chloride of lime to disinfect and protect against the odor. The starch they carted away."

There seems to be no complete list of the principals of the academy, but we list here those who made sufficient impression to be remembered.

Charles H. Allen, who later became a doctor, practicing in Cambridgeport, was principal for three years, the first. Mrs. Lee was preceptress, and he was assisted by his sister Anne. Mrs. Burrill kept a boarding house on the opposite side of the street, well filled by girls from out of town. The men boarded in private homes. For some years what had been the Caleb Bellows homestead (#153), was kept as the academy boarding house. Horace Wells a student at this time later discovered anesthesia by inhalation of gas. Among the Walpole boys were Bill Robeson, Dana Watkins, Tom Seaver, Jim Mitchell, Warren Giles, John Morse, Hub Wilder, John Floyd, John Grant, George Morse.

Samuel L. Felton was another principal, later a civil engineer and railroad manager in Pennsylvania. He was a remarkable Greek scholar, brother of President Cornelius Felton of Harvard.

William M. Pritchard, remembered as a linguist, was later a well-known lawyer in New York City. Miles T. Gardner was another early principal, but there is only his name.



The catalog for 1837 shows that pupils attended from Westminster, Rockingham, Windsor, Woodstock and Putney, Vermont; Swanzey, Jaffrey, Alstead, Charlestown, Winchester, Keene and many other New Hampshire towns. It gives the names of 107 pupils, and states that 193 had attended during the year. Justus L. Janes was principal, his wife, Abigail E. Janes preceptress. Ann Bellows, daughter of Josiah, taught music. She later became the wife of Rev. Thomas Hill, President of Harvard College.

In 1837 the Academy is described as having "globes, and a very respectable chemical and philosophical apparatus". This equipment gradually disappeared, victim to the destructive tendencies of school boys. Subjects: Greek, Latin, French, Italian, Arithmetic, Geometry, Algebra, Astronomy, Botany, Grammar. They parsed Pope's "Essay on Man" and gave declamations. A lecture on phrenology was frowned upon by the clergymen.

Rev. Henry F. Harrington was next principal, assisted by his wife and sister. He was later for many years superintendent of the schools in New Bedford, Mass. He is remembered as a genial man, a fine reader and actor. His wife was lovely, with beautiful eyes, and the boys fell in love with her.

The first teacher one writer remembered "was a Mr. Farley, assisted by Miss Livermore. The two teachers boarded at our house when I was three years old. He later went south for his health and died of consumption."

John Nelson Bellows, older brother of Rev. Henry W. Bellows, was principal in 1844, and at some time there were John Nichols and John Goldsbury.

William Guild remembered in the late 1840's "Fisher M. Rice, a stern, severe man; Mr. Seagrave who made a lasting impression on my youthful mind from the fact that one leg being shorter than the other, he walked with one foot supported by an iron frame; and James M. Chase, then a student at Harvard. . . . Though well qualified for teaching as far as education was concerned, he failed in discipline due to youth and inexperience. I remember visiting the school in his day and witnessing a rather unsuccessful attempt on his part to punish a refractory pupil as tall as and probably stronger than himself, by standing him in the corner of the school room. The name of the pupil was Frederick M. Holland."

Mr. Guild continued: "I attended the academy in 1851-2, I think, during the last year of its existence, before it was converted into a high school. The principal was Sullivan H. McColleston, since so well known as writer, preacher and lecturer. He had acquired the name of a successful teacher in District #4 (having taught there while he was still in college), and drew a large number of scholars from all parts of the town, many of them of mature years. I was the youngest scholar, being less than ten years old, and looked up with veneration to the older pupils who were pursuing such advanced



studies as Latin and the higher mathematics. Mr. McCollester was assisted in teaching by his wife and by his brother, J. Q. A. McCollester, a fine, serious young man. He was also assisted at times by the older scholars who heard classes of the younger pupils recite in the upper hall. The school was kept in the lower hall, the seats and desks were of plain pine. Mr. McCollester was then a very young man. With no special pretension to profound scholarship, he was fortunate in the possession of great enthusiasm which he had the power of imparting in full measure to his pupils. To give variety to the exercises he occasionally took the school on an outdoor excursion, the scholars marching two by two in a long procession, and the older scholars acting as marshals. Once he took us into the ravine back of the schoolhouse to get a practical lesson in geology and mineralogy, and another time up the hill, I think to Holland's Woods. Although he allowed considerable liberty, he was a disciplinarian and his 'Be careful, boys' never failed to check any disorder. He will excuse me for saying that in those days he wore his hair quite long, and it was a wonder to the boys how he contrived to make it turn under so smoothly at the ends.

Judge Bellows' description may add something to Mr. Guild's. "I think on the whole this was the most notable of all my schools. Dr. McCollester won his D.D. by being president of some obscure western college and was at that time in the prime of his youth, and had but very recently graduated from Norwich University . . . and the doctor came here wearing the uniform of the college blue.

"What an eye he had; and what a wonderful trick he possessed when he wished to be especially impressive—that of rolling the pupils of his eyes back out of sight so that nothing appeared but a white and glistening mass. The air trembled when rolling those eyes back he bellowed out: 'Carful, boys, carful.' Why he murdered the King's English in his pronunciation of that word I can hardly see, for ordinarily he spoke the language with accuracy and precision. . . ."

During the regimes of James and Harrington the Walpole Lyceum had meetings at the old Academy, discussing affairs of the nation with great animation. Also during the last years of the Academy there were discussions that aroused so much interest that many of the citizens attended and some of them took part.

Judge Bellows also recalled the Lyceums: "We had a very flourishing one in the village, although the talkers were mostly from the hills. The feeling between the street and the country was then most intense and the villagers were looked down upon and hated as the representatives of the aristocratic class. Our village doctor, Dr. Morse, thoroughly sympathized with the hill dwellers and at one of the Lyceum meetings favored the audience with a long satirical poem on Walpole and its inhabitants. . . ."

Some of the students were remembered as outstanding. Mr. Guild wrote in 1895: ". . . One of the oldest scholars was Edward Darby, then perhaps thirty years old. He came a long distance from the Valley, and was, perhaps, the leading spirit among the scholars. There were also the Mellishes from the Valley, bright young men, and a grave young man named Gilbert from the southeast part of the town, who was looked up to by the younger scholars because he was studying Virgil.

"There were the three Fishers, Andrew J., Charles and David, and Foster Watkins who was a good speaker; and William Johnson who was later at Bellows Falls, who heard the younger children recite in the upper hall. Many others might be mentioned,



but I must not forget Edwin Guild and John L. Hubbard, then as now studious and thoughtful.

"Also remembered were Henry R. Brown, son of Jacob Brown, who had a facility for composition and who in later life devoted himself to lecturing and literary work; and John Cole, an excellent scholar and son of a retired sea captain who carried on a store in the village."

## HIGH SCHOOL

The following is a summary of material from the *Walpole Gazette* Feb. 21, 1895, March 28, 1895 and May 16, 1895, the last by John L. Hubbard.

"We always admired the appearance of the Academy as it stands on its little eminence overlooking the village, with its tall columns, its belfry and cupola, so different from the school architecture of the present day. It seems to typify the generous and elevated views of the men of two generations ago. . . ."

"The establishments of high schools in New Hampshire dates from the passage of the Somersworth Act June 19, 1848. By an amendment passed July 8, 1850, the act was extended to include all districts in the state. The men who established Walpole Academy had passed, or were passing, from the stage and something was needed to take its place. Accordingly an act of the legislature was secured June 30, 1853, by which School District #1 in Walpole was allowed to purchase the Academy Lot for the purpose of a lot for a high school and their other schools. At a meeting held Sept. 5, 1853, the Academy Corporation voted to sell their lot (which of course included the Academy building) to District #1 for the nominal sum of \$300. On completion of the transaction the corporation passed out of existence.

"The school was not to be remodelled until the following summer. For a time a school was kept in the lower Academy hall for the larger scholars, some 40-50 in the class, the other two schools still at the brick schoolhouse. Too many came to this school, some had to be sent back. When the roll was called others would answer 'gone to the brick.'

"This school was kept by Rev. O. S. Morris who at the time was pastor of the Methodist Society. He had some talent, but it did not lie in the direction of teaching.

"After the purchase of the Academy lot the District erected the new schoolhouse for the primary and intermediate schools on the rear of the lot and fitted up the Academy building for the high school. In the lower hall of the Academy the floor was laid on an incline similar to the brick school and the old town hall, and the desks were clumsy affairs, evidently the work of the village carpenter, and were carved with names of successive generations of school boys who found the soft pine easy material for their jackknives.

"All this was changed. The old desks were removed and the floor levelled, but the lower hall was no longer used for a school room. The upper hall was fitted for this purpose and was furnished with desks of hard wood and chairs of the most approved design. They were similar to those now (1895) in use except that each desk had two compartments and two chairs and was used by two scholars, thus arranged in pairs (friends could arrange to sit together). Books of reference including Smith's CLASSICAL DICTIONARIES and also a terrestrial and celestial globe were purchased for the use of the scholars.

"So, in the autumn of 1854 the high school was opened with a goodly number of



scholars and with favorable omens. I was present on the first day of the term and secured the seat which I generally occupied as long as I was in the school. I remember distinctly an incident the first day.

"The new teacher was Galen A. Graves, a stranger in town. He was fully 6 feet tall, with a large frame, and gave the impression of great physical strength. As he was also of rather stern countenance, his appearance was calculated to strike with awe a scholar who saw him for the first time. . . . He devoted a good deal of time to drilling the school in reading. . . . He had certain favorite selections which were repeated until they became indelibly impressed on our memories.

"For English grammar we studied Greene's ANALYSIS. The first year we had MANN'S & CHASE'S ARITHMETIC, an excellent book of reference, but too hard for young scholars. It was followed by Greenleaf's ALGEBRA. I continued the study of Latin under Mr. Graves, and the second year with a few other scholars began to read Virgil's AENEID, the twelve books of which kept us busy for two years at least.

"He was succeeded by Rev. Francis B. Knapp, a thoroughly educated and highly cultivated gentleman, but entirely unfit to rule over his refractory pupils. He could preach, and he did constantly in his school, but he couldn't make even the feeblest obey.

"After graduating from Harvard and its Divinity School, he had entered the ministry at the same time as his brother Frederick, who achieved some reputation in life as a preacher and philanthropist, and quite a rivalry sprang up between the two. When Frank, as he was called, found himself worsted in the race, he retired from the ministry and settled here on his father's farm from which he emerged only for his rather brief service as a teacher.

" 'Why did you leave the ministry?' asked a friend.

" 'The fact is, you know,' replied Frank, 'that Fred and I started together, and he got so very much ahead of me that I gave up. You see, in the pulpit I could really preach a great deal better than Fred. I could do it much better than he until I got to the long prayer, where I found that though I could preach very well, I couldn't pray worth a damn.' (Josiah G. Bellows)

"In the fall of 1857 A. P. Richardson took charge of the school. Without apparent effort he governed the school by a combination of kindness and firmness so that no disorder was attempted or perhaps even thought of. I recall especially the thoroughness with which the various branches were taught. After two years on the AENEID he thought it best for us to take up Virgil's ECLOGUES. . . . We were now far enough advanced to appreciate something of the beauty of the poetry which told of the pleasures of rural life. We also continued the study of the Greek Reader. I suspect that even then the teacher's thoughts were turning to the study of medicine, as he introduced an exercise in which the whole school recited the bones of the human body, repeating the names of each twice and concluding with the words 'and the phalanges'. The rivers of North America were also recited in the same manner, beginning with the coast of Maine and proceeding south."

The following scholars were remembered:

"Horace Perry and Brigham Phelps, later town officials in Walpole and Westminster, respectively.

"Theron Adams, good mind, exemplary character, lame, excelled at



wicket, the favorite ball game that they played near the old apple tree, died of TB a few years after leaving school.

“Samuel Roy, a sturdy, broad-shouldered boy, good scholar, excelled at ‘lil-lil’ which they played on the level space between the schoolhouse and Buffum’s fence, no one able to stop him from breaking through the line.”

During the 1850’s there were two terms, fall and winter, each 12 weeks for the High School, a week or two less for the Intermediate and Primary. The enrollment was roughly: High School 35-40, Intermediate 45-50, Primary 40-50. By 1860 the Primary and Intermediate were keeping three terms—summer, fall and winter—but not until the 1870’s did the High School have three terms.

To enter the High School an applicant was examined in arithmetic, geography, grammar, spelling, defining and reading. However, requirements were lax, because it often happened that the overcrowding in the Intermediate had to be relieved by transferring some of the pupils to the High School. The Intermediate seemed to present the greatest test of a teacher’s ability because he had as students not only those who had naturally progressed from the Primary, but also “accessions from the floating material in the district too old for the Primary but not sufficiently advanced for High School”. Many were “not over scrupulous in their moral views nor over refined in their general deportment. They had been too long sovereigns at home”. This school was often too much, particularly for women teachers. A pupil ordinarily remained in the Primary and Intermediate four to six years.

There had been serious attempts at more careful grading, notably 1885-6. In 1894 a regular course of study was set up for the High School similar to other schools in the region. In June 1896 was held the first graduation from the full course.

Thanks to Miss Lizzie Maynard music had become a part of the curriculum in the village schools following 1883. In 1897 an organ was provided for the High School. Some teachers added physical exercise. In 1897, thanks to the generosity of Charles P. Howland of New York City, the lower room in the old Academy building was fitted up as a gymnasium for use after school and three evenings a week.

In 1884 there was a new state law in regard to teaching physiology, if the districts asked for it, but the Superintending School Committee doubted if many of the teachers could even spell the word, much less pass an examination in the subject matter. Bookkeeping was considered important.

The supervising committee were very critical of the performance of



the pupils at the examinations on the closing day. They were very fussy about careful enunciation and pronunciation of the words in spelling, and decried haste. Tardiness was a cardinal sin, even worse than absence.

#### DISTRICT #2 NORTH WALPOLE

In 1771 a school house was supposed to have been built near Cold River, but there is neither record nor reference to indicate where, or if it was actually built.

In 1806 the district was to begin at Thomas Swan's, Israel Wightman's and include all the families on the Charlestown line of that road. In 1813 "all land lying west of Fairbank Farm and north of Atkinson line, now belonging to Jonathan Royce and his family, to be annexed to #2."

The first recorded school meeting was informally called in 1817 (?) at "Thaddeus Nichols' Mansion House Hotel". Apparently there was no school house, an order being drawn for sending the scholars to Bellows Falls to school. The first warrant March 22, 1817, was to "try the mind of the meeting whether they will build a school house", to raise money by subscription, and to continue to send the scholars to Bellows Falls. Schools had been held more or less in the homes.

June 2, 1819, it was voted to build the school house, and agreed on the point at the south end of Tucker's garden (south of Vilas Bridge 1962) and put up to bid: Levi Chapin frame set up \$28.00; John Johnson 250 ft. common boards \$1.25 and 300 ft. clean boards \$3.00; John Blanchard 10,000 shingle nails, 2500 clapboards, 1000 board nails at cost. There seems to have been some discord and no progress made toward the building until 1826, although school was maintained.

In 1820 Miss Martha Bates was paid \$11.75 for teaching the summer school with children from the following families: J. Blanchard 2 (set off to #1 in 1821); J. Wightman 2; Z. Carpenter 3; N. Tucker 2; S. P. Spear 4; L. Chapin Sr. 1; J. Johnson 1; N. Chapin 2; S. Reed 4; Total 21.

In 1821 Miss Eliza Bates taught summer school in a "house near the bridge".

In December 1821 it was voted to examine the Bellows Falls claims, and have a woman teach school 12 weeks the coming winter. Miss Bates taught in Sampson Reed's house being paid \$19. Mr. Gates taught four weeks in the winter of 1823. The next winter a public spirited citizen furnished room and firewood at \$7.00 (\$1.17 per week).

About 1828 a new school was built near the stone house. The highway then descended to the level of the brook, where there was a small wooden bridge. The raw sand bank in front of the school house furnished



great sport for the pupils. There still being discord, within ten years the school was moved to the geographical center of the district near the foot of the hill below Tucker's. When the railroad was built 1848, the school house was pushed out into the highway. It was proposed to return it to its original site, but it was finally sold and removed to Bellows Falls. It burned there about 1899.

In 1850 school was kept in the ell of Holland Albee's house (built by Sylvanus Johnson) corner of Main and East Streets. The peculiar character of the teacher made the school a farce.

About 1850 the stone school house was built, and later became the home of James Hennessey (NW #9).

	1854	1864	1874	1884	1894	1904
No. Scholars	16	40	46	101	215	356
No. Schools	1	1	1	2	4	9
Wks. School	4	32	17	34	32	34

The preceding chart may give some idea of the rapid increase in the number of pupils at North Walpole and the problems involved in providing adequate schools for them. In 1877 the board reported "They are mostly of Celtic origin and their language partakes strongly of the Celtic accent, but they are bright and active, and manifest a strong desire to learn." The school house was much too small and the children were herded in. In what school of normal healthy children would there not be disciplinary problems under such circumstances? Committees were critical of whispering in other schools, but here they complained of a steady hum of voices. There was complaint that the parents refused to buy the books approved by the committee, and there was a great shortage of books.

In 1881 "it was deemed best to divide the school in this district into two departments. There were special difficulties at first, growing out of the fact that the two schools were kept at a distance from each other. These were happily overcome by the building, during the summer and autumn, of a new and substantial house, suitable for the accommodation of the two schools on the hill."

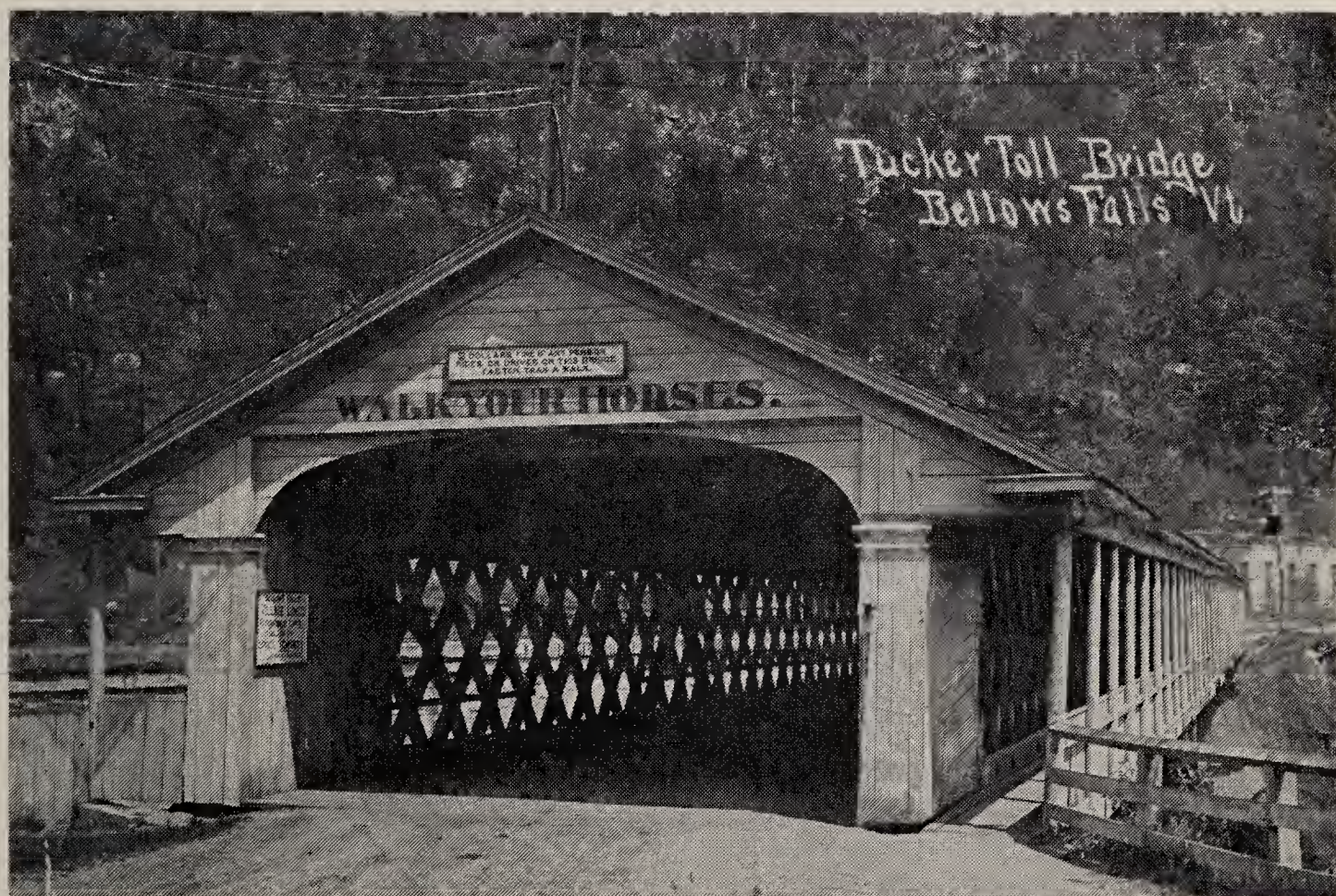
However, by 1884 there was need of another room, and by 1885-6 the primary was kept in the basement of the Catholic Church. By 1889 there was need for another room, which was rented. There were two primaries, an intermediate and a grammar school.

In 1895 another school was established and again 1896, making two grammar, two intermediate and three primary. In 1901 further appro-





TUCKER TOLL BRIDGE AND R.R. BRIDGE about 1915



TUCKER TOLL BRIDGE about 1905





CHESHIRE R.R. BRIDGE before 1899

(B. F. Lib.)



NORTH WALPOLE AND SULLIVAN R.R. BRIDGE before 1882

(B. F. Lib.)





BRIDGE OVER COLD RIVER about 1908



THE THREE BRIDGES IN DREWSVILLE about 1892  
Two covered bridges and one open bridge





DEPOT HILL in 1870

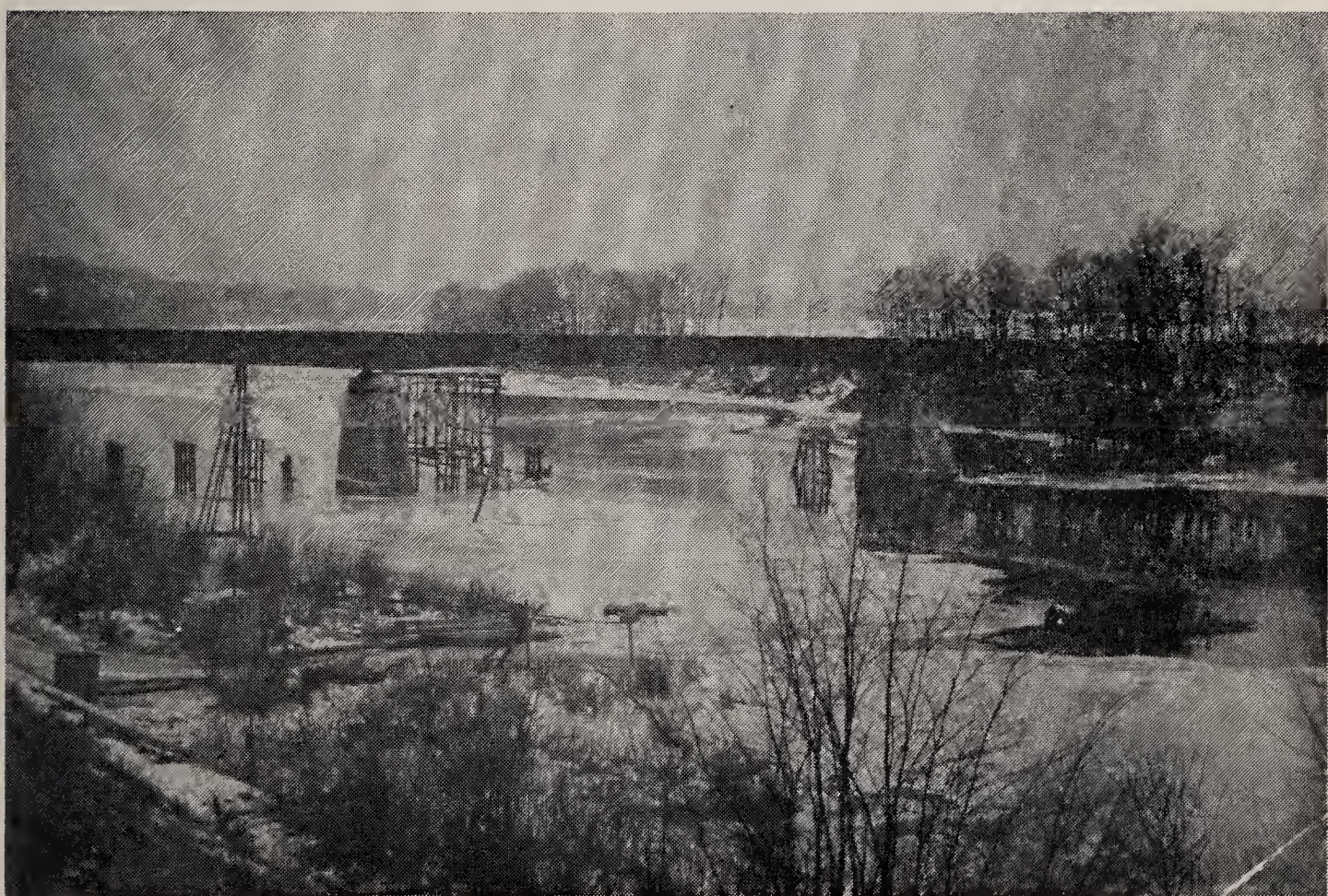


BUILDING WESTMINSTER BRIDGE in 1870





WESTMINSTER BRIDGE after Flood of 1867



WESTMINSTER BRIDGE IN BUILDING, 1911, WITH FERRY





NORTH WALPOLE AND LOG DRIVE

(B. F. Lib.)



LOG PILES AT NORTH WALPOLE about 1910

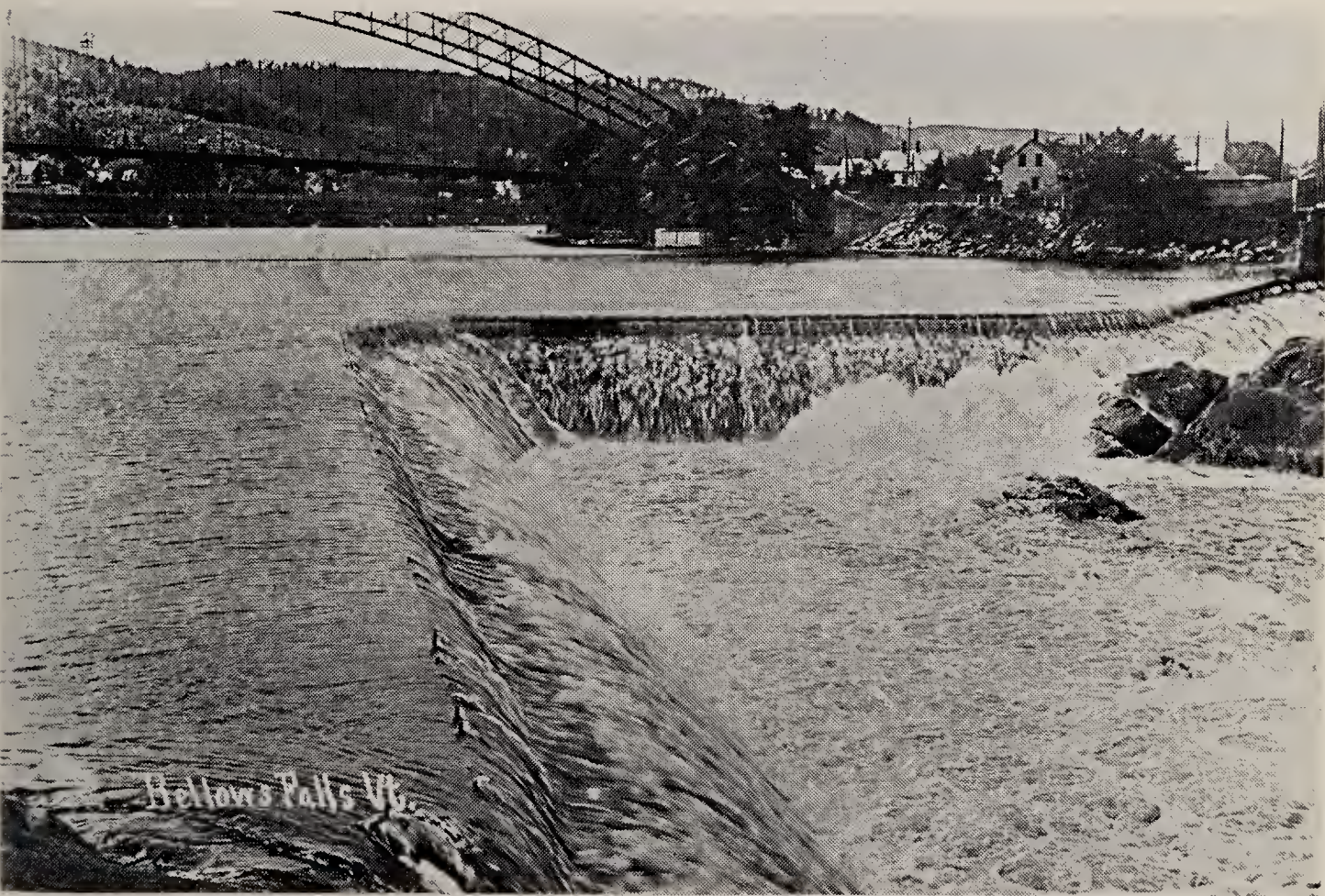
(B. F. Lib.)





LOG JAM AT CHESHIRE R.R. BRIDGE before 1899

(B. F. Lib.)



OLD DAM AT NORTH WALPOLE before 1926



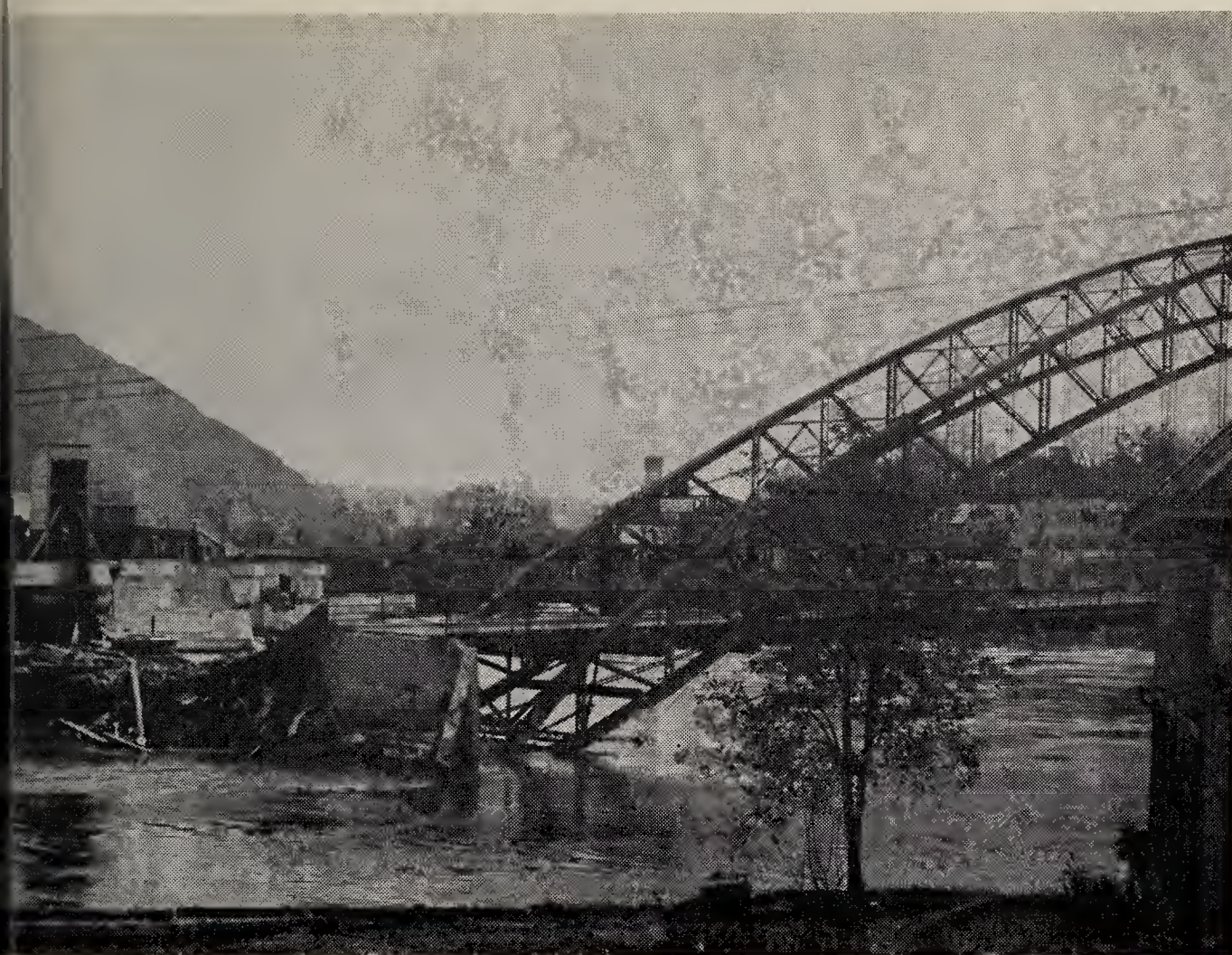


NORTH WALPOLE AND BRIDGE



CHURCH STREET, NORTH WALPOLE, Nov. 1927





AFTER FLOOD OF NOV. 1927



SULLIVAN R.R. BRIDGE, Flood of 1913





WESTMINSTER BRIDGE IN FLOOD



ROUTE 12 AT COLD RIVER, Mar. 1936  
Near Stone Bridge



HALE BRIDGE, FIRST OVER CONN.,  
1785  
(B. F. Lib.)





ABENAQUI MINERAL SPRING as it was 1880



BESIDE PECK'S DRUGSTORE, Hurricane of 1938





CATTLE FAIR OR AUCTION IN NORTH WALPOLE about 1910



FISHER MILL DAM AT DREWSVILLE  
about 1920



COLD RIVER STOCKYARDS, 1872  
(#589)





GRIEFIN TOBACCO FIELD about 1903  
Where High School is today



TOBACCO BROUGHT TO BARN





BARN RAISING, Aug. 19, 1884



TOM AND DICK WITH HERB DRIVING  
Winners at Cheshire Co. Field Day



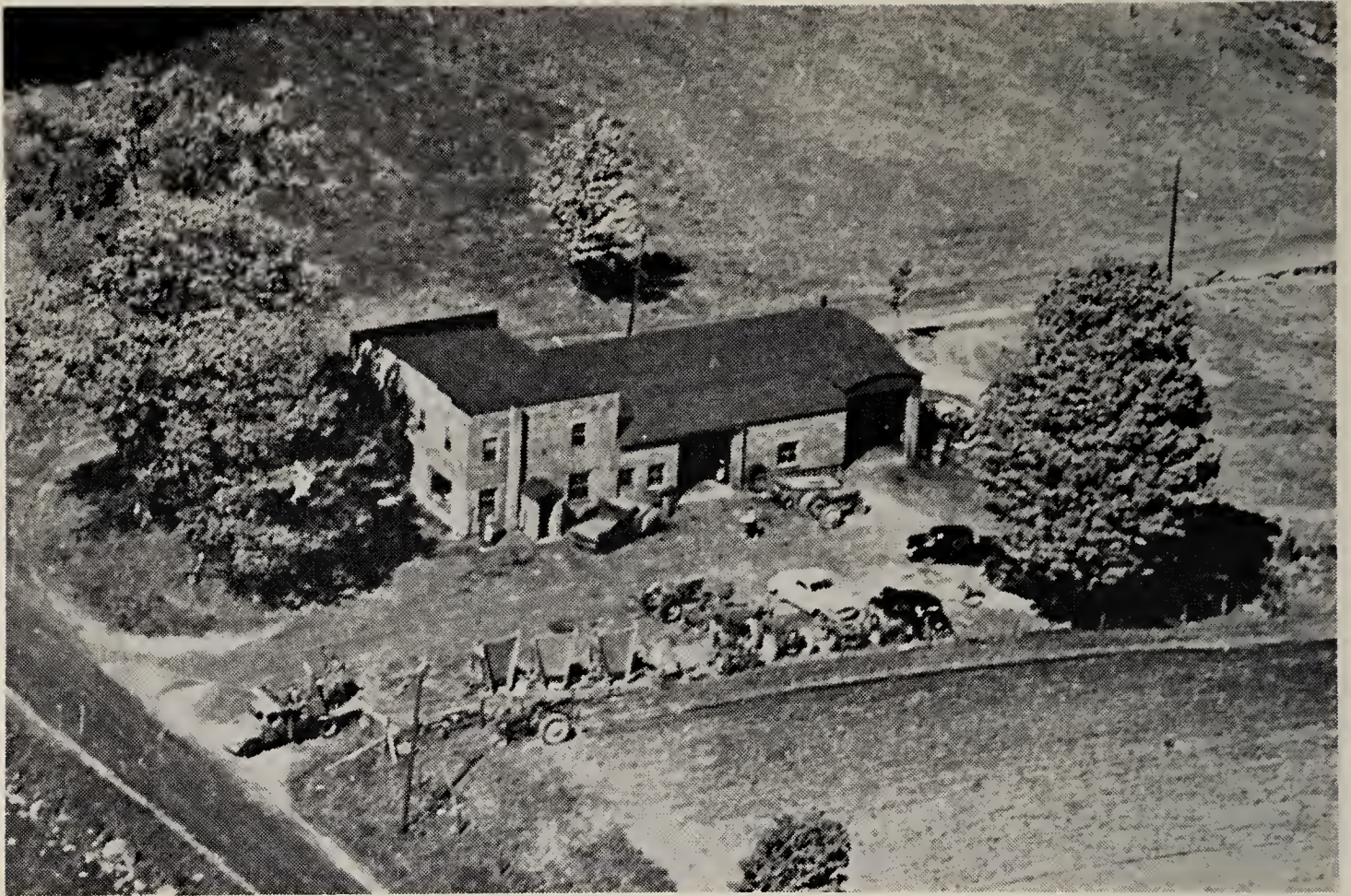


R. N. JOHNSON'S FARM EQUIPMENT (#485)



BALL'S MEAT CART





PINNACLEVIEW FARM EQUIPMENT (#435)



THE OLD BLACKSMITH SHOP (#31)  
Also Town Jail 1888-1952



priation was made for enlargement at North Walpole. The old 1881 building was "enlarged to contain eight rooms, by an extension 45 x 45 feet on the south, with vestibule 12 x 35 on the front containing stairways and broad hallways through the center of the building, opening into the schoolrooms each side, and with an assembly hall for public school exercises in the third story. . . . This it is confidently hoped will supply the needs of that village for some years, although the rapid increase and frequent changes in population make the future very uncertain."

DISTRICT #3 VALLEY: In 1782 the northeast part of the town was set off as a district, from Col. Webber's (next south of #453) to Cold River, Stearns (next north of #455) to Alstead line. In 1789 it was voted to raise £46 to build a new school in the south part of the north district and hire men exempt from the levy. This was probably the "Square School House" which stood on the crossroad southerly of the old Quinton place (#553).

Sometime about 1800 the old Square Schoolhouse in the Valley was replaced. The new schoolhouse was at the crossroad north of Emerys, as shown on 1858 map.

In the early days this was probably a large school, in the 1850's still having as many as 40 scholars. In 1868-9 morale was at a low ebb during the winter term, although the summer school seemed to have been satisfactory. The committee reported "The school room on the day of examination presented the appearance of having been under a military siege, the bombardment being so severe that it was only a question of time when the house would be razed. The teacher, deeming discretion the better part of valor, and to avoid broken bones and the effusion of blood, concluded to surrender to the insurgents, they being allowed to remain and carry off the spoils. . . . The committee would say that they have been creditably informed much of the damage to the school was done in the night time when the teacher was not present." There was an unusually large number of boys twelve to twenty in the school at that time, and even a man teacher was unable to handle the situation, even though a woman had handled the summer school without difficulty.

This school had its ups and downs, sometimes with a particularly inspiring teacher such as Charles Fisher or J. W. Prentiss Jr. very good, but on the whole mediocre and small.

In 1880 the school house was rebuilt after having been in bad condition for years. Modern benches were installed. Toward 1900 the pupils were transported to Drewsville part of the time and the last school held here was in 1901.



DISTRICT #4 RAMSAY HILL: In 1782 there was a school house on the west side of Ramsay Hill Road, at Jennisons' (Howland 1960) north line, but we have found no mention of it other than in the deeds. It may have been the "Hill" school, perhaps one of the three built by the early committee.

In 1801 Capt. Jennison and others were allowed to form themselves into a school district with a school house near the meeting house, actually at the foot of Ramsay Hill. In 1854 Appolos Gilmore's estate sold whatever right it had in the school house lot here to the district.

In 1806 this district embraced the territory within these bounds: Leonard Harrington and Roger Walcott on Ramsay Hill (#451 and across the road); Dr. George Sparhawk (#442); John March (#412); Nathan Smith (#419); Alexander Watkins (#410); Eliphalet Fox and Oliver Sparhawk (Prospect at #200 and #162); Thomas Sparhawk hill farm (#420) and James Fuller (#422).

This was one of the large schools, having up to 40 pupils in the 1850's. For many years it was considered the best school outside the village, the greatest criticism being in 1877 when it sank almost to average temporarily. There seemed to be more ambition and interest here than in some of the districts, and it was noted that the older scholars assisted the teacher, rather than trying to make life difficult.

In 1881 extensive repairs were made and the old seats and benches were replaced with more modern equipment. School was last kept here 1898. The building was to have been sold at auction April 1901, but the district kept it, the residents to keep it in repair. It is now (1962) the residence of Reginald Mack (#426).

DISTRICT #5: This district may have been set off when that part south of Great Brook was set off from the central district. A school house was built here 1790, probably another 1832 when Dr. Stephen Johnson sold land "with privilege of putting school house on premises". In 1864 Eli Graves sold to the district additional land adjoining for a woodhouse, to hold so long as school is kept "on premises on which said district recently built a schoolhouse". The school house stood on the east side of the Watkins Hill road south of Great Brook.

In 1806 the district included Moses Mead and Asahel Bundy on the Thompson Road; Aaron Hodskins and Aaron Hodskins Jr. on Kingsbury Road; John Graves (#317); Eliad Graves (#320); Calvin Eaton; Levi Fay on the old Fay Road to Derry Hill; Ephraim Drury (#415).

This was a large school in the 1850's, but shrank a great deal. It was not usually one of the best schools, due primarily to lack of parental



cooperation and interest. School was last held here in 1895, and by 1901 the building had been sold to George Chickering.

**DISTRICT #6 MARCH HILL ROAD:** This district was set off 1796. In 1802 the school house stood on the south side of the road 159 rods from the Alstead line (measured along the highway). In 1808 a new school house was built on the north side of the road opposite the end of the Fay Hill Road.

In 1806 this district included Joseph Bundy (Esdras Smith later, 1962 Von Lackum) place; Moses Fisher on Maple Grove Road; east on the March Hill Road to the Alstead line; and the places on Fay Hill.

This was not one of the larger schools, but it was one of the best in town, consistently good. Parental interest was exceptionally good. In this district the parents helped inadequate teachers, rather than making bad matters worse.

The school became small with other pupils brought in from Derry Hill in later years. School was last kept here 1901.

**DISTRICT #7 DERRY HILL:** This district was established 1795. The school house stood on the north side of the road along the top of the hill, between Dickey's and Barnett's.

In 1806 the district included all of Derry Hill as far south as the old Scovill farm (not the south one), George Cochran's, Thomas Moor's, and on the west Capt. John Emery's.

Probably this was a good-sized school when the Emerys, Dickey, Moors, Barnetts, Marshes, Scovills and Cochrans were growing up; but when they had gone their way, it became a rather lonely place. Even in the 1850's there were less than a dozen pupils, and many times there would be only three in the school. The teacher had no disciplinary problems with the children so thinly spaced, but there was no inspiration. In the later years there were sometimes only three families represented—Pratts, Dinsmores, Marshes; sometimes only two.

This was the first district school to be discontinued; school kept last in 1885. In April 1894 Willis Dinsmore bought the school house for \$10.50.

**DISTRICT #8 CARPENTER HILL:** During the earlier years of the settlement on Carpenter Hill the families were allowed their school money to get schooling where they would, and we have no record of when the first school house was built, except that in a deed recorded 1798 there is reference to the school house road. There are no records to indicate that



more than one school house was ever built, and some of the reports indicate that the building was getting old before its use was abandoned. It stood on the southwest corner of the County Road and the Patnode (1962) Road, only the old doorstone now remaining. The Patnode Road has been turned to come more directly into the County Road.

In 1806 this district included the Joseph Mason place (later Scovill) and every place south from there to the Westmoreland line, then west to include the Rapids and north to take in Christian Hollow and the south part of the Cochran Road.

This had probably been a fairly large school, and a good one, for in 1854 the committee reported that they had never seen a poor school here. In the 1850's there were at times close to thirty scholars, but the number was declining. In 1874 there were only eight scholars, half of whom came from Surry and Westmoreland. This created a problem, because they brought their own text books which were different from those used in Walpole.

In 1879 the committee reported (it would probably have been true in any district): "To control and bring into subjection the disturbing elements which sometimes appear in school in the shape of boys who have transformed beef and pork into 175 lbs. of bone and muscle without improving the intellect, requires undaunted courage and an indomitable will on the part of the teacher." Not many of these boys attended summer school, but they were apt to be found in the winter schools. Most districts liked to have a male teacher in the winter, while a woman was all right in the summer, although some of the women teachers were equal to any situation, apparently, and some of the men had disciplinary problems.

This school house was last used for school purposes in 1895. In April 1901 Haskell Towne bid it in for \$15 for the Crehore.

DISTRICT #9 NORTH WENTWORTH ROAD: In 1781 a southwest district was set off. It may have included only the River Road or it may have included this area also. There was an early school house in the neighborhood of Galen Tiffany's place (#271) for in 1808 Benjamin Floyd, Eli Russell, John Martin, Jeduthan Russell and James Allen sold to Ariel Allen for \$50 "the school house that belongs to our district".

In 1806 this district included on Wentworth Road from Josiah Griswold's (#297) north to Jonathan Hall Jr.'s (north of #282); on Rt. 12 from Jonathan Fletcher's (#273) north to include David Hall (#259).

In 1809 Henry Foster sold to the district for \$3 a lot in the southwest





*Old No.9 School*

corner of his farm, at the northwest corner of Sterling Graves' orchard, 46 feet on the road, 23 feet deep, for a school house. This was on the east side of Wentworth Road opposite Allen Holmes' (#291) place, now his garage. It was a brick building, but from reports was not very pleasant inside, cold and dingy.

This was a large school, over 40 scholars in the 1850's. Some teachers were successful here, but others had difficulty for various reasons, in some cases parental non-cooperation or open defiance. It was a common practice to engage Dartmouth students to teach the winter term in the district schools. In 1874 this was the case in this district. The committee reported that he was a good teacher and kept a good school, but it was out of the question to compliment him because of an incident the last week "impressing the importance of always holding the passions in absolute sway". This excites one's curiosity as to what the awful incident could have been.

In 1790 Henry Foster had come to this district to teach school. "Susannah, daughter of Capt. Levi Hooper, was one of his pupils, of whom he became enamored, and afterwards married May 24, 1792".

By the 1880's the number of scholars here was about seven. Later the number was augmented by bringing here pupils from other district



schools. School was last kept here 1898. It was to have been auctioned off in 1901, but the residents reserved it for their use.

DISTRICT #10 SOUTH WENTWORTH ROAD: In 1785 a district was set off "from McNeal's south to the Westmoreland line", perhaps this district. In 1806 it included a very broad territory: On Wentworth Road from Capt. Titus (next south of #297) to the Westmoreland line; from Capt. Joseph Fay's on Watkins Hill crossroad on the east westerly to include Increase Blake and Capt. Benjamin Floyd (#276) on Rt. 12.

This was a very large school in the 1850's and at times was rated the best school outside the village, but at other times was broken up by feuding among the parents, undermining the work of the teacher. One of the outstanding teachers here was John L. Houghton.

The school house stood on the west side of the highway a very short distance south of the west end of the Blackwell (#301) crossroad. In 1876 a new and substantial house replaced the old unsightly and uncomfortable structure.

School was last kept here 1895. In 1901 the old seats were replaced with settees and it was used for community purposes. It burned.

DISTRICT #11 RIVER ROAD: In 1781 the River Road including the Atkinson Farm (#233) to Westmoreland line was set off as a school district, but what came of it we don't know. In 1796 the River Road was again set off, the east line being east of Hugh Dunshee's (#241) to the Westmoreland line.

In 1806 the district included on the east John Martin and Jacob Lock (area of #277); Nathan Fairbank; Nathaniel Cross; Hugh Dunshee to the river.

In 1822 Moses Burt gave a quit claim deed for a school lot on the west side of the highway somewhat south of his house, 34 feet on the highway, 20 feet deep "to set a school house upon and for no other purpose".

This was not one of the larger schools, nor a very satisfactory one, although there were times when it pulled itself up a bit. Enrollment grew progressively smaller, the last school being kept 1898.

In 1901 it was sold at auction to Waldo Burt for \$20. When Ida Burt sold the farm she reserved the school house and lot, moved the school house farther south and converted it into a dwelling (#244).

DISTRICT #12 DREWSVILLE: In 1806 the committee reporting on the bound-



aries of the various school districts recommended that "Capt. Jonas Fairbanks and sons, Joseph Jones, John Cheney, Pearl Parker, Jonathan Royce Jr. and Elijah Burroughs ought to have their own money, if they choose it, provided they lay it out for schooling." In 1811 they were set off as a district.

In 1836 the people in #12 filed a petition to have the school house located, since Thomas Drew refused to sell them the land they wanted. A hearing was held at the tavern of Hope Lathrop, and a piece of Drew's land (north side of road as on 1858 map) set aside for the purpose, for \$10, to revert to the owner according to statute when no longer used as a school house.

This was the first school house of which we have found a record. It was replaced in 1873 with a new school house on the south side of the street east of the Common.

This was a very large school in the 1850's with 60 scholars, but it dwindled to a sixth of that number. There was often a lack of serious effort in this school and it came in for considerable criticism from the committee.

The school was continued until the new school was built in Walpole Village, the last session 1949.

**DISTRICT #13 CHRISTIAN HOLLOW:** This district was set off 1817. In 1818 for \$5 William Robinson gave to the district a quit claim deed for "land on which the school house now stands . . . also with convenient yard between Turnpike and said school house. . . ."

In 1876 this was replaced with a new school, a little red school house which stood in the pasture (#344) across the brook and east of the sugar house by the gate to the pasture, the lot enclosed by a stonewall. This building became so dilapidated that school was discontinued 1886-1895, the pupils being taken to #8 on Carpenter Hill.

This was not a large school, in the 1850's up to 28 scholars, decreasing thereafter. In December 1875 there was great turmoil in Christian Hollow over the dismissal of Edward A. Watkins as teacher. Later he was rehired. In the spring of 1876 they voted to build a new school house. There was considerable criticism because of the location and because they used the old furniture in their new school. The new school was on the south side of the road east of the parsonage (#343).

School was last held here 1934 and the building was sold in 1958 to Jesse Pickering who moved it to the north side of the highway on Watkins Hill (#336).



DISTRICT #14 ROUTE 12: This district was the last to be set off (1839) and it continued until the new school was built in Walpole Village, the last session 1949.

August 3, 1839, the inhabitants of #14, set off from the north part of #1 and the south part of #2, met at the home of Isaac Bellows. They raised \$250 to build a schoolhouse on the west side of the road north of the brook.

It became dilapidated and was replaced with a new building in 1882. There was considerable delay in the building and during the process school was kept in a room at George Angier's house. The district took land by eminent domain from the Hooper property, 80 sq. rods for \$125, in the point between the roads at the top of the hill. It was purchased by the Darlings and made into an eating establishment, called the Blackboard (1960). Since then the land has been purchased by the State for the replacement of Route 12 and the buildings moved to the west side of Route 12.

This was not a large school, having about 22 scholars in the 1850's and holding fairly even, full to capacity its last years.

#### SUPERVISION AND UNION

As organized for many years there was a Superintending School Committee whose duty it was to visit each school twice each term, approve textbooks, examine prospective teachers (usually May and November) and make an annual report (begun about 1814) to the town and the state (Law in 1876). The committees seem to have been conscientious, and many of the reports are frank to a fault.

Many times they were unable to make their second visit, on the final day of the term, because of lack of information as to the date, or inclement weather including insurmountable snowdrifts.

Each district had its Prudential Committee, usually one person, but in some cases up to three. These committees were elected in their own districts and it was their duty to provide a teacher, approved by the Superintending School Committee, and suitable school houses with furnishings and fuel.

The districts were supported for many years by a base sum per school (\$75, 1883 \$85 suggested) plus a stated amount per scholar.

Changing textbooks more than twice a year was prohibited by law. One report extols the advantages of changing reading books more frequently than others because the pupils became too familiar with the pieces and lost interest. This report recommended a change every eight



or ten years (1880). Until 1891 (new law for free textbooks 1889) pupils provided their own books, and they liked to use what they had in the family, the consequent diversity creating a real problem for the teacher. At North Walpole one of the problems was that up to three pupils had to share one book.

It was customary to hire a teacher for one term at a time. Usually a woman was considered competent to handle the summer schools, but many districts felt that in winter they needed male teachers to cope with the larger boys. Many of these teachers were from Dartmouth College.

The lot of the Superintending Committee was not easy. In 1874 they had two feuds on their hands—in #10 where certain parties opposed John L. Houghton as teacher and he withdrew to keep the peace; and in #2 where Mr. Monroe, a leading citizen of North Walpole, had some difficulty with the teacher. However, the parents wanted Mr. McIntire there and stood by him.

In 1874 a committee was appointed to report on a "Town System" and redistricting, but the hostility was so great that no work was done. Through the succeeding years school committees favored consolidation of outlying districts to obtain more education for the money expended. The real break came in 1885-6 with the passage of a new law.

The school district system had been established at the same time as the early settlement and had attained a firm foothold. The school district, by itself, approached pure democracy, and the old red school house had long been cherished as the bulwark of our American government.

The new era began with the abolition of the old district lines and a new numbering. This was found to be so confusing that the old numbers were reinstated after the first year. However, consolidation had begun. Pupils from the smaller schools were taken to larger schools: #7 to #6; #11 to #9; #13 closed because of the poor building and the pupils taken to #8. This was the beginning of transportation of school children at public expense.

For some districts this meant two weeks less of schooling per year than formerly, but for the smaller districts it meant a longer year. They were all now on 26 weeks, still short of the 34 weeks in the village. By 1888-9 it was up to 30 weeks, then slipped back to 29 weeks. The change was not easy, and for several years there were grave misgivings. It was difficult for the districts to give over all control to the town district, and for the town district it was a period of groping and experimentation.



The following taken from *Walpole Gazette* Thursday, March 31, 1892 gives some idea of the turmoil:

"It has come to be universally admitted that upon no subject is a New England town so quickly stirred or so keenly alive as upon matters pertaining to the welfare of its public schools. . . . A slight innovation often precipitates a fight that endures for years, and any proposition involving considerable change or increased taxation is certain to array public sentiment in opposing lines.

"It is, however, simple justice to the parties in the Walpole controversy, to state that, if up to date any personal vindictiveness enters into the contention, it is the rare exception rather than the rule. The fight will doubtless be persistent and final on the question involved, but there are indications that it will be like the tilts of lawyers who make a great show of roasting each other in court and then meet in the evening for a friendly game of cards.

"But it will be no tame affair. Plenty of as sharp practice as the law will admit will be used, and there is no lack of conviction, courage and intelligence on either side. It will be fought out by votes, and, not improbably, by ultimate decisions of the courts, and so many minor questions will arise that it may grow into one of the liveliest skirmishes over school affairs that ever engaged the conflicting interest of a New Hampshire community.

"The situation is a peculiar one. Walpole Village has long had a union district under the Somersworth Act and maintains a high school. The matter of proximity of North Walpole to Bellows Falls and its excellent schools have made the interests of the two villages very diverse. The farming section around Walpole Village has, geographically, a community of interest with the village.

"Right here the fact that each village has a Democratic majority of course brings to bear the influence of friendly party affiliation between the two villages. The majority outside the villages is Republican.

"The division of property is stated on good authority to be substantially this: Town, \$1,500,000; Walpole Village, \$500,000; farmers, \$600,000; North Walpole, \$400,000.

"Religiously, Walpole Village and the farming section are much like most New England towns where there is little or no manufacturing, and North Walpole is much like the average manufacturing village of this section. Protestantism predominates in one, Catholicism in the other. It is inevitable that there should be wide diversity of opinion touching public matters in a town so peculiarly divided financially, politically and religiously.

"Many citizens have held that the union district and the town district should unite. The act of the last legislature providing that the town district should, in case of such union being effected, assume the support of the high school originated in Walpole union district. The bill was so drafted as to make a vote of the union district sufficient to effect the union with the town district, but it was so amended as to require a vote by both the union and the town districts. With the continuance of the high school assured, the union district voted almost unanimously January 15 to unite with the town district. At its annual meeting, the town district voted almost unanimously not to unite with the union district. It is assumed that the farmers and people of North Walpole were afraid, wisely or unwisely, that the burden of the high school would more than offset the gain of participation in the large funds of the union district.

"Over 200 voters from North Walpole went to the annual school meeting at the



town hall in Walpole village by special train from Bellows Falls. Under the general article in the statutes relating to building, repairing, etc., a resolution was introduced providing for a new school house at North Walpole at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. The debate was heated and exciting, and the town district killed the resolution by a majority of 20 votes. The term of Henry C. Rawson on the school board expired at this meeting. Mr. Rawson was an efficient member and approved for his integrity even by his enemies, but a movement was on foot to make a north end man his successor. Mr. Rawson resides about halfway between the two villages. Henry E. Putnam of Drewsville and Thomas J. Gould of North Walpole were put forward as candidates. By the failure in preparing ballots to insert the initial of Mr. Putnam's middle name, he was defeated by a plurality of only one, 14 votes being cast for "Henry Putnam".

"The election of Mr. Gould, added to the previous election of James H. Brown, gave North Walpole a majority of the school board.

"Although Mr. Wellington, the third member of the board objected, Mr. Gould and Mr. Brown proceeded to call a special meeting April 2 at the schoolhouse in North Walpole to act upon the following matters: to raise \$10,000 for erecting a new school at North Walpole and to choose committees and agents for this project; to see if the district will vote to receive District #1.

"The union school district is an interested spectator, feeling fortunate not to have been voted into the affair, taking the precaution to get from the clerk a certified copy of the vote. The farmers feel that it was a mistake not to have taken in the union district, since it would help to defeat the extravagant demands of North Walpole. They strenuously object to a meeting being held at North Walpole in violation of all precedent in a place too small, with no adequate provision for stabling horses. They agree that North Walpole needs improved facilities, but consider the present proposal extravagant. They feel that most of the North Walpole people who would benefit from this improvement pay only a poll tax. They resent the fact that the proposition was not plainly stated in the article in the warrant, but was brought in under a general article. At North Walpole some think it would have been to their advantage to have had the union district voted in because they feel that the union district would have divided on the issue while others agree with the farmers. They feel that their present school, an old wooden building on the hill, is inaccessible, insufficient in size and uncomfortable. The room over the engine house is equally bad, a disease breeder because of its proximity to the closet. Those who can afford it send their children to Bellows Falls. There are 240 children whose parents cannot afford to do this. An adequate school would cost \$10,000.

"Mr. Albert Nims, a wealthy inhabitant of North Walpole, sides with the farmers. He considers \$3500 sufficient, that there is no need to ape Bellows Falls. It is not safe for the farmers with horses to drive here for a meeting in a village so cut up by railroads. There isn't room here to stable half a dozen horses while the farmers attend a meeting. He offered to contribute \$500 to make a better schoolhouse when the present one was built. He has fitted up the room over the engine house and charges only \$50 rent instead of the \$75 the district was paying for a basement room.

"At the school meeting held at North Walpole April 2 there was a good attendance, many going up on the noon train and returning by special train about 6 P.M. There was a 46 vote majority against adjourning the meeting to the town hall two weeks later. They then adjourned to the church basement where, after the train had left with the voters from the south end, a vote was taken, 176 in favor, none against building the



\$10,000 schoolhouse. The total attendance was 513. (It took four hours to count the vote on adjournment.) Committees went to work immediately on construction of the new school.

"The matter was taken to court where a ruling was handed down that Mr. Putnam was legally elected to the school board, and therefore the meeting held at North Walpole was not a legal meeting.

"Another meeting May 17 at Town Hall was called for 9 A.M., Kiniry from North Walpole as moderator. North Walpole people arrived on the 8:54 train. Meeting was opened at 9:10, motion to adjourn was rushed through while people were arriving, passed 182-124. There were yells as north end people started for the depot to catch the 9:20 train north. George B. Williams was chosen moderator and the meeting continued. Votes passed at the meeting at North Walpole April 2 were annulled almost unanimously. \$6,000 was voted for a new school; G. B. Williams, Lucius Wellington and H. E. Putnam the committee."

Another meeting was held May 26, and again June 2 at which the suggestion was made they have school meetings every two weeks for entertainment of summer visitors. The June 11 meeting settled the question satisfactorily to all.

District #1 (Village) had remained a separate district under the Somersworth Act. In 1898 Town and Village Districts were united under the provisions of Chapter 64, Law of 1891. The School Board was enlarged to six members. On the first board were Elisha A. Keep, Henry E. Putnam, Frank Wright Pratt, Joseph Corcoran, Charles H. Barnes, John W. Cahalane. They reported:

"The schools of the town present the familiar problems of all towns of its class, of a decreasing rural population and the necessity of centralization to obtain a sufficient number of scholars for the operation of successful schools. It therefore seemed best to bring the scholars of divisions 4, 5, 9, 10 and 11 to Walpole Village. This has greatly improved all the schools and given a much better opportunity to scholars coming in than otherwise could have been, and we believe is the best economy and will obtain the best results for all concerned.

"It has increased the scholars of Walpole village from a total of about 65 last year to about 100 this year. This has enabled the board to regrade the entire system, and establish a regular grammar department, under the high school, which has long been needed and which has been a signal success under the present able and efficient teacher. As now graded, the entire course covers twelve years of regular school work: three in the primary, three in the intermediate, two in the grammar and four in the high, which, if well sustained in the future, ought to give as good results as can be obtained in any of the towns of the region, and when thoroughly adjusted, to be able to adequately prepare for college, or give a sound and practical academic training. . . .

"The schools at North Walpole which are rapidly increasing in number and efficiency, have also been reclassified and graded, mainly along the lines of the course of study of Bellows Falls. . . .

"The board was petitioned to make an arrangement with the Bellows Falls high school, for the schooling, at the expense of the district, of such pupils of North



Walpole, as were able to attend, in place of attempting to convey them to Walpole high school. This matter, however, was laid before the district before action, at a special meeting, when it was voted to make such an arrangement, as being cheaper for the town than to allow them the mileage rate to Walpole, or attempt to convey them.

. . .

“Quite a sum of money has been expended in permanent improvements at North Walpole, in a heating and ventilating system, running water and sanitary arrangements, which health as well as convenience urgently demanded. . . . This places the equipment at North Walpole in fairly good condition; but the rapid increase will before long require larger accommodations and more teachers, there being 67 children now enrolled in one room, under one teacher, and the hallway of the main building utilized as a recitation room besides.”

Mr. Cahalane, not being able to agree with the rest of the school board, gave his own report, having to do primarily with North Walpole. He felt that the crowded condition could be remedied with one additional room if children under school age were not allowed to attend. It was his opinion that although supposed to be helpful, the children who most needed tuition paid to Bellows Falls were unable to take advantage of the new plan because they had to go to work. He added “I would advise a return to the system of three members of the school board, and the employment of a superintendent, either in conjunction with a neighboring town, or alone, as better results would be obtained and a more equitable system would prevail throughout the town.”

## 1900-1960

The all-pervading theme through the reports for these years is improvement of educational opportunity, a striving after the best which can be bought with the available resources.

At the beginning of this period the old three year high school course was expanded to four years to meet state approval. There were nine grades, three in a room. There were 35 pupils in the high school, 140 in the grades. At North Walpole there were twelve school rooms available with nine occupied.

In 1903 Walpole united with other towns (Westmoreland, Langdon) to hire a superintendent of schools. In more recent years the Supervisory Unions have been set up by the state. The towns in the Union pay a proportionate share of the expense of the union and the state contributes to the salary of the superintendent out of the funds from the per capita tax (levied on the districts according to the number of pupils, really an equalization, an advantage to the poorer districts).

Transportation of school children had begun when district schools



were closed. In 1903 the superintendent (Supt. Record) suggested that, "in contracting for conveyance another year, written contracts be made specifying the price paid, route, kind of carriage to be used, and the degree of supervision or control to be exercised by the driver. . . ." And in 1904 "The larger number of pupils made it necessary to add another team at the beginning of the fall term, making five now employed.

"It would seem to be expedient for the district to own part if not all of the carriages used for conveyance."

Then in 1911 Mr. Record reported "At the opening of schools in September I was able to place at your disposal three barges for the transportation of the school children. I believe these new vehicles have improved the service, at least I have received fewer complaints than in the past. . . ."

In 1903 mileage and conveyance cost \$424.50, in 1959 \$6650.00. Since 1947 the district has owned its own school buses. In 1954 there were four buses, three of which were making four trips daily.

In 1905 the high school course was revised to provide two full four year courses, one of which was a college preparatory course (listed Town Report 1905 p. 37).

At this time there were eight sources of revenue for the support of schools: 1) School money required by law to be raised by the town; 2) Literary fund, the annual income from certain taxes divided by the state among the towns on the basis of the number of pupils (Literary fund established June 29, 1821, for endowing "a college for instruction in the higher branches of science and literature," consists of proceeds of 1.5% tax on capital stock of banks in the state. In one year amounted to \$4,770.37); 3) Dog tax, whatever was left over after paying dog damage; 4) Additional local taxation; 5) Equalization fund—\$18,750 annually distributed in direct ratio to the number of children and in inverse ratio to equalized valuation; 6) Tuition rebates; 7) One half of superintendent's salary; 8) Endowment funds. (See T.R. 1908 pp. 36-7.) Walpole was receiving all but #6 and #8, in 1907 from the state \$932.74 and toward the superintendent's salary \$275.

In 1909 trade courses were suggested. As a result domestic science and agricultural courses were established and in 1913 manual training.

Also in 1913 there began to be more serious concern for the physical well-being of the children, beginning of eye testing and physical examinations which have continued and expanded through the years, first under the district nurse, later the supervisory union nurse.

Walpole had for years shown an interest in sports, particularly base-



ball. In 1914 the high school had baseball and track teams. During the 1920's interest in basketball increased. The Town Hall was used for practice by both boys and girls. Usually the sport was self-supporting, but in 1930 rent for the town hall put it in the red. In 1952 they began playing touch football, 1958 soccer.

By 1916 there was inadequate space for manual training at the high school and another building was erected, funds provided by contributions (\$700) and taxation, about an equal amount.

By 1917 the school population had so increased that there were now two grades per teacher per room; in 1918 the 7th and 8th grades became a junior high school. In North Walpole this system was adopted in 1927.

In 1919 the agricultural course was reorganized to meet federal requirements to qualify for aid under the Smith Hughes Act.

In 1921 the first year of high school was added to the offerings at North Walpole, in 1924 a second year.

In 1924 the hot lunch program began with the domestic arts girls preparing hot cocoa and/or bouillon for those pupils who brought their lunches. It was financed by contributions from the pupils and others. In 1949 the work was hired done. In 1958-9 67,040 meals were served at a cost of \$22,244.41, apparently self-supporting.

In 1926 the school year was three terms of 12 weeks each.

In 1926 the town had accepted the Hooper bequest and the new building was erected, on the site of the second meeting house, for use in the agricultural courses. The recreation room came to be used for monthly socials by the student body.

Beginning 1924 the agricultural and domestic arts students held an annual fair at the Town Hall, now at the new school.

In 1949 a commercial course was added to the high school curriculum, in 1955 driver education and physical education. In 1959 a full time guidance director was added to the staff.

In 1926 the *Warbler*, a yearbook, was initiated. The Business Department mimeographs the monthly school newspaper *Chick's Chirps*.

The village elementary and high school operated under conditions which became progressively worse with time and increase in enrollments. A committee of citizens working in cooperation with the school board made a thorough study of the school needs. "Both buildings were erected during the early period of the town's history and undoubtedly met the full needs of that time. They are now, however, antiquated, and are entirely inadequate for development of a modern educational program." (Supt. Dalzell's report 1944.)



In 1948 completed plans and specifications for a new elementary and high school building were submitted to the voters. Action was taken to continue the committee. The contributions to the capital reserve fund started by the town in 1945 were continued at the rate of \$10,000 per year.

In 1949 the district voted the new school, authorizing a bond issue for \$250,000. When estimates for the project were studied it became evident that the appropriation, though generous for the size of the town, would be inadequate without sharp cutting of corners. The most obvious place to cut was the elimination of the auditorium-gymnasium.

“At this point the Hubbard family came forward with the statement that as a memorial to Mildred Hubbard Phipps, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hubbard, and sister of the four brothers, Oliver J., Austin I., Leslie S., and Donald E. Hubbard, the family as a unit would provide all funds for the gymnasium-auditorium. In accepting this unusual and generous offer the members of the School Board and the Building Committee feel that in so doing they were expressing for everyone in town not only appreciation, but the thanks of not only the adults, but also the generations of boys and girls who will daily see and use this expression of generosity and thoughtfulness for the good of the home town of this notable family.” At about the same time the committee received notice of a gift of \$1000 from Hervey L. Smith Jr. to be used in connection with the development of the playground side of the proposition. Robert Galloway came forward with a gift of all the basketball goals and equipment (1949 Town Report pp. 100-102. There is also a complete description of the new school.)

The total bonds and interest amounted to \$202,500, the total receipts for the project \$351,457.34. Of this \$41,151.34 was from the capital reserve fund. (1950 Town Report p. 95.) The school was completed 1950.

In 1952 need for a new school building at North Walpole began to be apparent. Plans were approved at the annual meeting in March 1953, but bids did not come within the appropriation, and adequate funds could not be raised under limitations set by existing state law. In 1954 \$175,000 was voted for the school, and the building was occupied January 3, 1955 (Town Report p. 104 for description). Following is the financial report on the North Walpole building: Notes or Bonds \$160,000; Dividend and Interest \$733.60; Capital Reserve Funds \$15,680.56; Other Receipts \$21.96. Total cost of the project \$176,436.12. (1955 Town Report p. 99.)

In 1955 Walpole Village schools were again in a crowded condition. There had been an increase of 25% in three years. “There is a real need



now for four more additional classrooms at the Village School and a real need for additional space for vocational agriculture and seventh and eighth grade shop classes. . . . The increase in the agricultural course will make it necessary to have three sections next year as compared with two sections this year and the size of two of these sections is too large for the facilities now available at the Hooper Building.” (Town Report 1954 p. 105.)

In 1955 Supt. Keach reported that in the six years since the erection of the new Village School the enrollment had increased 36%, that the building planned for a maximum efficiency at 433 was accommodating 469 with an additional 30 expected the next year.

At the annual district meeting the voters authorized a bond issue for \$130,000: \$124,000 for a new elementary school and \$6000 to accomplish alterations, additions and improvements in the present building. There were delays in building operations, but the school was ready for occupancy in September 1957, dedicated March 1958. A six room school, it was originally planned to accommodate the first three grades, but the addition of kindergarten for the south part of town (North Walpole had had it for years) made some changes necessary. For complete financial statements see 1957 Town Report p. 90 and 1958 Town Report p. 86.

Ever since the turn of the century there had been an article in the school warrant “To see if the district will authorize the school board to enter into a contract with the school district of Rockingham, Vt., for payment of high school tuition.”

In 1957 instructions were voted for a study of North Walpole pupils attending Bellows Falls High School as tuition pupils. Three public hearings were held by the State Board of Education, at which “a large majority of the citizens of Walpole were in favor of continuing the present procedure.” However, the State Board reported that by law it was compelled to advise that it would approve tuition grants for a five year period beginning with the school year 1958-9, provided that all Walpole school pupils in grade 9 for the school year 1959-60 attend Walpole High School and that successive grade 9’s attend Walpole High School until all students of high school age in Walpole School District are attending Walpole High School. (1957 Town Report p. 96.)

In 1962 the problem is still unresolved.

#### LIBRARY

In 1795 there was in Walpole an unusual number of gentlemen of outstanding talent and reputation. Residing here for a brief period in the



practice of law was the Hon. Jeremiah Mason, subsequently a leader of the bar in Portsmouth and Boston. He, with others, was instrumental in establishing the Walpole Proprietary Library and served as its first librarian. (In 1907 his grandchildren presented his portrait to the library, and his granddaughter, Mrs. Robert C. Winthrop Jr. of Boston, a memoir of her grandfather.) He was succeeded in 1797 by Joseph Dennie, editor of the *Farmers' Museum*.

The Proprietary Library flourished for many years. According to tradition, Rev. Pliny Dickinson was the last librarian, his over-zealous buying of theological works being a cause of discontent among the members.

This association was succeeded in 1823 by The Walpole Library Association, incorporated in the names of William G. Field, Henry Foster, Isaac Redington, Ebenezer Morse, Frederick Vose, et al., for the purpose of purchasing and holding a library and making all necessary rules and by-laws. They were authorized to hold property to an amount of \$2000.

This association continued for 30 years, accumulating a collection of some 500 or 600 volumes. Through the years most of the prominent citizens were members, but the person who prepared the by-laws, served in important offices and was responsible for book selection was the Hon. Frederick Vose. It was undoubtedly through his influence that so high a standard of excellence was maintained.

To encourage the town to establish a public library, on December 10, 1853, the members of the association voted to present their book collection to the town on certain conditions. At the March town meeting 1854, it was voted to accept the proposal of the owners of the Walpole Library to take the library by raising \$200 in two years, to be expended in books for the use of the town and "to choose a committee of three to make rules and regulations for the management of the town library".

Frederick Vose, Thomas G. Wells and Thomas Bellows were chosen as the committee and \$100 appropriated. Except for a difficult financial period during the War of the Rebellion, the town continued for many years to appropriate \$100 annually. In later years the amount was gradually increased until at the present time the appropriation is \$2290 (1959). There is something over \$700 income from trust funds.

The interest which Judge Vose felt in the library association he transferred in full to the town library. He not only tendered valuable service as member of the committee, but at town meeting was always ready to defend the library against the opposition which sometimes arose.

Col. David Buffum was the first librarian of the new library, the books



being placed in his store where they remained until the building was destroyed by fire February 1859. The library was rescued with the loss of a large number of volumes which were, however, fully made good by insurance.

Subsequently, for a series of years the library was kept in the store later owned by C. C. Davis.

During the War of the Rebellion interest in the library fell off. Many volumes were lost or allowed to get out of repair for lack of funds. Soon after the close of the war interest revived. The library was put into good order, replenished by voluntary contributions of books from Rev. Dr. Bellows and many others, and placed in the care of Miss Jennie M. Ball as librarian in a convenient room in Buffum's Block.

In 1868 the annual appropriation was resumed and the library came into a new period of growth, usefulness and prosperity.

In 1872-73 Louisa A. Pierce was paid for serving as librarian and providing a room. In 1873 the library was moved into rooms in the rear of the post office in the store of Ransom L. Ball. This was a convenient arrangement, since it appears books could be borrowed or returned whenever the store was open.

In 1877 the committee reported, "We have endeavored to select such novels and light reading as will not vitiate the morals of our young people."

In 1886 a branch library was established at Drewsville in care of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Putnam who continued their supervision and interest as long as they lived. After Mrs. Putnam's death in 1913, Mrs. Charles Whitman took over. In 1887 the Drewsville Book Club donated its collection to the library.

The library report for 1891 is well worth quoting: "The number of volumes now on the catalogue is 4691 of which 573 have been added since March 1, 1891. Of these 65 have been purchased by the town and 508 have been presented by various donors. . . . The past year has been an important one in the life of the library, having witnessed the erection of the Bridge Memorial Library building and the removal of the books to their new permanent home. As is well known, the building was erected by our fellow citizen, Mr. Hudson Eliot Bridge, as a memorial to his father, Mr. Hudson E. Bridge, who was a native of this town and was for many years an honored citizen of St. Louis. The cornerstone was laid May 17 and the completed building dedicated with appropriate services in the town hall August 20. . . . Upon the acceptance of the building the town



will come into possession, free of all expense, of one of the most beautiful and most convenient library buildings in the state. It comprises a book room large enough to accommodate the library for many years to come, and a reading room furnished in the most substantial manner, and supplied with the best weekly and monthly periodicals. The furniture, lamps, portraits, clock and all other articles necessary for a complete outfit have been provided without cost to the town. . . . The periodicals in the reading room have been provided by a fund raised by subscription. . . .

“The labor of arranging and covering the books called for additional help and the number of the library committee was increased from three to twelve by the selectmen. With this enlarged force and the aid of volunteers outside of the committee the work of classifying the books and placing the entire library in good order was completed and the library reopened in the new building October 3 in the charge of Miss Annette Brown as librarian. . . .

“At the suggestion of Mr. Patrick E. Griffin, a member of the committee residing at North Walpole, a branch of the library, consisting of about 225 volumes, has been established there. By changing these volumes as often as necessary the citizens of that part of town will thus enjoy the benefits of the use of the books of which they have been heretofore deprived by distance. In connection with the books there will also be a reading room, supported by the citizens.”

After giving the library to the town Mr. and Mrs. Bridge took an active interest in it. Mr. Bridge served on the board until shortly before his death in 1934. After his death Mrs. Bridge was made an honorary member of the board.

In 1876 Miss Jennie Ball and Miss Mary Aldrich had arranged the catalog which was subsequently printed, followed by supplements from time to time. It was found that the work and cost of preparing catalogs was prohibitive and that they soon became obsolete. Consequently in the fall of 1891 the committee voted to prepare a card catalog, little realizing the cost or extent of such an undertaking. Ten thousand cards were purchased from the Library Bureau of Boston and, no funds being available, Thomas B. Peck began the preparation of the catalog after studying the rules adopted by other libraries. After a time Miss Louisa B. Hayward and Miss Mary Tobey came to his aid. At the end of three and one half years (Fall 1895) it was estimated that about three-fourths of the volumes were catalogued on 5500 cards. In 1896 \$100 was appropriated to hire a professional to complete the task.



In 1911 the library had become so crowded that it became necessary either to enlarge the building or discard some books. The committee hired a professional to re-catalog the books under the Dewey decimal system of classification and the Browne system of charging was inaugurated.

By the death of Mr. Waldo F. Hayward September 8, 1897, the committee was deprived of the services of a valued associate who had served since 1880. A constant reader and well-informed about books, his opinion was especially valuable in the selection of purchases.

Numerous gifts to the library are listed in the annual reports, many from summer residents, such as 203 volumes of popular fiction from the General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of the City of New York, secured by a member of the society, John E. Nicholson. In 1937 there were 326 volumes given through Yale University in memory of Charles P. Howland.

In 1930 the request for funds was increased "to carry out the work already started in the children's department and to enlarge our number of reference and other books directly connected with school work. . . ." In 1936 a marked increase in juvenile circulation was reported. In 1938 a story hour was started in connection with Children's Book Week and the Christmas Festival.

In 1935 the old delivery window was removed, the partition opened and a new counter built. Through the years the addition of shelves for books has been an almost continuous process.

In 1918 250 books were sent overseas to the American Expeditionary Forces, through the American Library Association.

Except for a slump in the early forties circulation has steadily increased. In 1961 the circulation from the Bridge Memorial Library was 13,976, including the North Walpole branch. In 1921 there was a spectacular increase at North Walpole of 36%, 5% at Walpole Village.

In 1928 the library received assistance from the State Library in culling its book collection. Through the years assistance has increased. More and more books have been borrowed directly from the State Library and through the Bookmobile. Since 1956 the library has been in a cooperative plan with neighboring libraries. At first the group of five libraries (Walpole, Charlestown, Acworth, Alstead, Langdon) was given a grant for buying books cooperatively. Now the libraries meet bimonthly for book selection and purchase at a discount through the State Library.

In 1946 many of the North Walpole library books were lost when Russell Hall burned. In 1952 a special appropriation was made to replace



these books. The library was temporarily housed at the Kilburn School. In 1955 the library was established in a new room in the building erected to replace Russell Hall.

Since the Bridge Memorial Building had become very crowded, the voters approved an appropriation at the Town Meeting in March 1961 of \$8,500 for an additional room and new heating plant. This was completed in September of 1961. Mr. David Allen Reed gave his services as architect and donations of money from Mr. Arthur Bunker, Mr. Cummins Catherwood and Mr. William Willard were used for furnishings.

During the first years of the Bridge Memorial Library members of the committee were appointed by the selectmen and usually served for life. Beginning in 1926 trustees were elected in compliance with a state law. The Board usually consists of nine members, elected in groups of three for three year terms.

#### WALPOLE FIRE DEPARTMENT by Margaret Williams

The records of the Walpole Fire Department began in the year 1781. At that time the records of "The Firewards" disclose that on April 6th of that year the New Hampshire Legislature passed: "an Act to Regulate the proceedings for Extinguishing fires that may be accidentally or otherwise kindled among Buildings, to prevent the keeping of fires in unsuitable homes and places, to preserve goods, endangered by such fires, and to remove or demolish Buildings judged to be dangerous to the Public Safety."

The above Act was amended in 1794 to include "fires in pitch pots".

Section 2 of the 1781 Act provided that a "suitable number of persons of approved ability and fidelity should be nominated as firewards and have for a distinguishing Badge of their office, a staff five feet long painted red and headed with a Bright Brass Spire six inches long, and the firewards, aforementioned, are hereby required upon notice of The Breaking out of fire to take with them the Badge of their office and immediately repair to the place where such fire may be and do everything possible to extinguish and contain the fire and prevent plundering and disorders."

The previous acts had not provided for control over fire engines, so in 1818 it was provided that firewards were to "have at all times entire control and direction of all fire engines, fire hooks, hose and other implements now in use or that may hereafter be used."

It was voted to adopt these acts at the annual town meeting in Walpole held on March 9, 1819. Two years later, in 1821, Engine Company #1 in



Walpole and Engine Company #2 in Drewsville were formed and by-laws were drawn up and approved. These by-laws were signed by the five original firewards: Thomas C. Drew, Thomas Redington, Thomas Bel-lows II, William G. Field, Martin Butterfield, and Joseph Bond. From then on regular monthly meetings were held at Holland's Tavern from March to October.

In those early days the average number of firewards for each company numbered about twenty. The meetings were held principally to elect officers and new members, and for holding drills. Each member was paid thirty cents for attending and fines were imposed for not doing so. At each meeting a Chairman was elected to preside, and a Secretary. The record does not list the names of the Captains of the fire company until 1855 although the by-laws state that a Captain, Assistant Foreman, Clerk and Treasurer would be the officers to be elected annually.

In 1855 a significant development took place—the formation of the village precinct. Upon the petition of the town's 67 legal voters, it was finally voted and approved. The boundaries of the precinct covered, approximately, the present heart of the town. Aaron P. Howland acted as moderator for the meeting and William Ruggles as Clerk. Augustus Faulkner was elected Chief Engineer with Aaron P. Howland and David Buffum assistants.

It was in this same year that the town voted to raise \$500 for the “purchase of a site for an engine house, building same, constructing reservoirs and supplying them with water; for the purchase of hose, ladders, fire hooks, buckets and pails, and such other apparatus as the engineers may think necessary, and for repairs of the existing fire apparatus”. This was the beginning of the expansion of the Fire Department.

Interest in the fire company rose and fell and for the next several years the annual meetings were just routine until 1858. In the record for that year appears an interesting item. Apparently someone cut the hose during a fire and one of the actions taken at a meeting following this vandalism reads, “the engineers will use every exertion to ascertain who cut the hose on the night of the burning of the Buffum store”. This fire was in what was then known as the “brick block” and traces can still be seen in some of the beams of the present Bemis IGA store.

During this period the engine house was located at the back end of the old Town Hall. The equipment consisted of hose carts, hand pumps, buckets and pails, ladders and fire hooks.

In 1871 \$800 was voted by the town to purchase an engine and four hundred feet of linen hose. An additional \$900 was voted to build one



or more reservoirs and for purchasing a hose carriage. The following year \$300 was appropriated for another reservoir and for firemen's badges, rubber coats and hats. The pay for a fireman at this time was \$1.50 per year!

Again there is a lapse in the records for several years. It was not until April 1886 that the first mention of the "Mazeppa Engine Company" is found in the minutes of the annual meeting of the Fire Department. However, in other town records it was noted that at the annual meeting in April 1876 it was voted to buy new uniforms for the Mazeppa Engine Co. These were to consist of "blue jackets trimmed with red, red belts, with hook and ladder design in white enamel on front, 'Mazeppa' behind." (Quite different from no uniforms of today!) There were 31 firemen at this time with officers as follows: George H. Flemming, Clerk; H. A. Perry, Treasurer; Henry C. Podwin, Foreman; Frank H. Proctor, First Assistant; Elmer Powers, Second Assistant; Dennis Griffin, Suction Hose-man; Bartholomew Driscoll, Steward.

In 1886 the Engine House was moved from the Town Hall site to a building behind the present (1962) McDonald's store on High Street where it remained until the modern fire house now in use was built in 1954.

During all the years recorded from 1821 to 1904, there are reports of a Grand Ball or Festival being held each year to raise funds for the fire department. There was also dancing, band concerts, auctions, and sales of home-made products.

After 1904 records are lacking until 1928 when, under the leadership of George Jeffrey as Chief, a second-hand Cadillac passenger car was acquired through donations. Jeffrey, being a mechanic, converted this car into a fire truck. An old horse-drawn fire pump and tank were found in another town and mounted on the Cadillac chassis together with hose racks and other customary items of equipment, such as fire buckets, hooks, hose, axes, etc. This truck enabled the firemen to reach a fire quickly by motor instead of on foot. This improved the effectiveness of putting out fires and marked the beginning of the motorization of the Walpole Fire Department.

A further addition to the equipment was made in 1934 with the purchase by public subscription of a new Dodge Fire Truck. This truck was equipped with a 250-gallon pumper and a 100-gallon booster. This second piece of motorized equipment is still in service.

In 1942 the Walpole Fire District was formed to take the place of the old precinct. The new district comprised the entire townships of Wal-



pole and Drewsville, this wider area being the same as is covered by the Walpole Fire Department today.

The territory now to be protected made it necessary to buy additional equipment to supplement the old Cadillac and Dodge trucks. In 1950, therefore, the Fire District purchased a Ford F 600 Farrar Pumper with a 500 gallons per minute capacity front end pump for \$5000. This unit was the first piece of apparatus to be purchased with funds raised by direct tax assessment.

In order to be able to house the three trucks now in use, a new engine house was built in 1954 on the north side of Westminster Street in the heart of the village and is still in use. This new building provides ample space for four large fire trucks, has a watch desk, meeting room, kitchen facilities and fire whistle equipment.

A major step in the further improvement of fire fighting in the area took place in 1957 when the Walpole Fire District joined the Southwestern New Hampshire Mutual Aid System with central headquarters in Keene, N. H. This mutual aid makes it possible to obtain extra help and specialized equipment by asking for it by radio. Two-way mobile radios were purchased for this purpose for the Ford and Dodge trucks, the money being raised through the personal efforts of the firemen themselves.

The joining of the Mutual Aid System made it advisable that Walpole obtain another piece of apparatus. This was done in 1959 with the purchase by the Fire District of its first custom-built fire engine for the sum of \$19,500. This FWD 750 GPM rural pumper with a 500-gallon water tank, twin booster reels, a large supply of hose and equipment, including two-way radio, was built to specifications by the Farrar Company. Equipped with four-wheel drive and designed for hill climbing performance, this truck has proved to be a very satisfactory unit. Similar units have since been purchased in the East by other fire departments as a result of the performance record of the Walpole truck.

Meetings of the Fire Department from 1935 to the present are held twice a month during April through September and once a month during October through March. The present district personnel consists of a Chief, Deputy Chief, 3 Fire Commissioners and a department limited to thirty men.

The Walpole Fire District has a very high efficiency rating and one of the best records for low fire loss in the State of New Hampshire. A few years ago Walpole, together with four other neighboring towns, were called to a Mutual Aid fire in a garage in Saxtons River. Later someone



made the remark that "the Walpole engine was the third outside engine to arrive at the scene, but the first one to get a stream of water on the blaze".

#### NORTH WALPOLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

In December of 1886 the Selectmen of the Town called a meeting in North Walpole to "take action against fire." Five Firewards were elected. In April 1888 \$300 was voted by North Walpole for purchase of a "hand engine" and \$300 for hose. This was the old "Union" pumper which was typical of the engines of its day, operated by manpower on the cross bars. It was equipped with a full complement of leather buckets used to keep its tub full from any convenient water source. This pumper was housed at what is now the J & W store on one side of the building, the jail being on the other side. Long after this pumper was out of use and in disrepair, Atwell Greenaugh spent days repairing it and patching the buckets. However since that time it has been forgotten except that it is said to have found its way to a museum in Manchester. In December of the year when the "Union" was purchased the Firewards were authorized to organize a Fire Company.

In 1902 the old pumper was moved to the then new Russell Hall. John Fitzgerald was the Fire Chief at about that time. In addition to housing the pumper, two rooms were set aside for use of the firemen and in the hall were held the annual Firemen's Balls for several years.

The next engine was the "Glen", a steam engine with a copper boiler. This was given to North Walpole Village in 1910 by the International Paper Co., having brought it from service in Berlin, N. H. At a special village meeting in January 1911 it was accepted with the provision that it be housed and maintained, sufficient hose (1000 feet) be purchased and a fire company of not less than 15 men be formed. It is recalled that if time were allowed to get up a full head of steam the "Glen" could throw a stream of water over the old town clock. It was drawn by two horses and was driven at one time by Harry Breslin.

Later in 1911 it was voted to leave the appointment of the Fire Chief and organization of the Fire Company to the Village Commissioners. In 1914 it was voted that until other arrangements could be made (probably with Bellows Falls) warning of fire should be by ringing the church bell. In 1915 it was voted to install the first two fire alarm boxes.

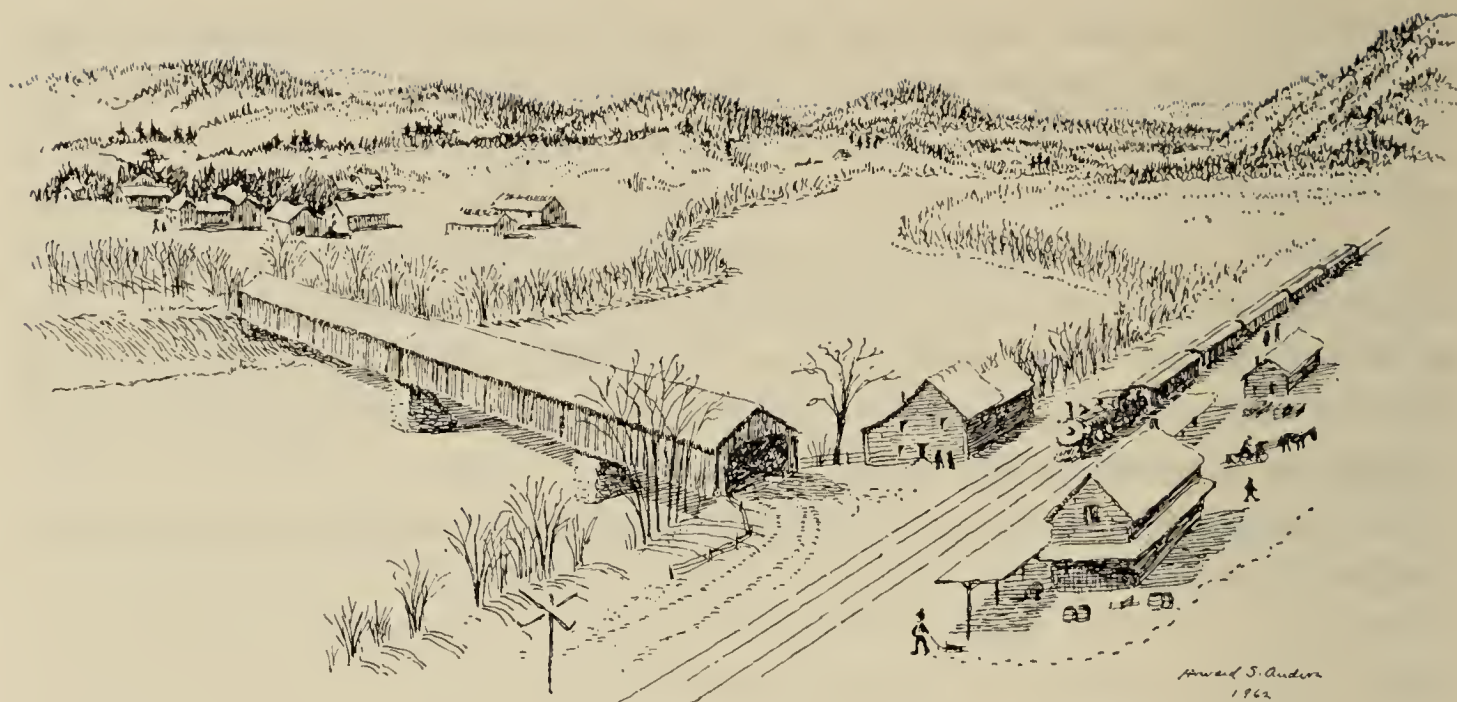
The Ford pumper was acquired about 1924 and the "Glen" retired sometime after that. The big engine was bought about 1947 and the 750-gal. truck was obtained from Navy surplus in 1958.



One of the earlier large fires was the saw mill which burned in 1896 or 1897. Another large fire was in 1914 when the C. J. O'Neil house near Ash Street burned down. There were four tenements in the house and a stable attached which housed a valuable race horse. As was the practice of the time, the old pumper was rushed to the scene and put into action while the "Glen" was slowly getting up steam. The old "Union," using in its tub water taken from one of the cisterns, had the fire nearly out but the "Glen" failed to take over in time. The "Union" is credited with saving the Kenney house nearby.

For information about cisterns and water mains used in firefighting see section on Waterways.





*Old Village Bridge, Early 1910*

## Chapter IV

### WATERWAYS

**T**HE CONNECTICUT RIVER flows the length of the west side of Walpole, its western bank, the boundary line, under dispute for many years.

**CANAL** (Based on Hayes' *History of Rockingham* 1907)

In 1792 New Hampshire (and Vermont) granted a charter to *The Company to Make Connecticut River Navigable*. There were six falls on the Connecticut River which had to be by-passed by canals in order to make the river navigable, the first river in the country to be so improved. At Bellows Falls the drop was 52 feet. The first construction was promptly washed out by a freshet and subsequent efforts proved so expensive that the originators of the scheme never profited financially. It was not until 1802 that boats actually passed through the canal.

By that date there were already enterprises on the canal utilizing the water power. By 1812 there were two paper mills, two sawmills, two gristmills and a cotton factory, all burning in that year. When the canal ceased to be used for transportation after the coming of the railroad, there were a gristmill, a paper mill, a railroad machine shop, a sawmill and a fulling mill.

In 1866 the original company was sold to Ex-Gov. S. W. Hale and E. F. Lane for an estimated \$65,000. They sold 1871 to William A. Russell and



others. Russell developed the water power, in 1875 widening the canal from an average of 22 feet to a minimum 75 feet, deepening it from 4 to 17 feet and building a new, higher dam, spending about \$300,000. He sold the mill sites and leased the water privileges. In 1907 there was a total of 13,855 H.P. utilized.

Bill Blake started the first paper company here in 1802. His papers were made by hand out of rags. In 1870 when Wm. A. Russell started in the paper business, he had an eye on the power and there was already thought of using wood pulp. In 1872 Russell consolidated his interests into the Fall Mountain Paper Company which in 1898 was merged into the International Paper Company, having at that time a capacity of 4,500,000 ft. By 1907 they were using 15,000,000 ft., largely spruce. This was, through the early years, floated down the river in the log drives.

These developments on the canal have had an influence on Walpole. One of the striking effects has been the development of North Walpole as a home for the workers in the paper mills. The power developments have brought certain complications. Of course the real estate along the canal belonged in the State of Vermont, but who had a right to tax the water power and when taxed, should the owner of the power or the lessee pay the tax?

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE-VERMONT BOUNDARY LINE

(*Bellows Falls Times* March 26, 1908)—“At Town Meeting Rep. Charles J. O’Neil demanded that the selectmen tax parts of the big International Paper Company’s plant, the Robertson & Son’s plant, the Moore & Thompson Paper Company’s plant and any other property on the Vermont side of the Connecticut River which is situated beyond the point where the bank breaks and vegetation ceases. He promised to pay all costs of a lawsuit in the Supreme Court providing the town of Walpole reimbursed him if his contention proved correct. The town officers were authorized to use so much of the contingent fund as necessary to determine the boundary line between New Hampshire and Vermont. Leading Concord attorneys were engaged. The results could affect property the length of the river between the states.”

More than 100 years earlier, January 1, 1782, the Vermont Assembly voted (in order to establish peace) “That the west bank of the Connecticut River shall be considered as the east boundary of Vermont”.

December 29, 1794, the New Hampshire Legislature passed an act providing that the northerly and southerly lines of each of the several towns in this state adjoining Connecticut River “shall be considered to con-



tinue and extend across said river to the westerly line of this state, which line is hereby declared to be the westerly boundary of this state”.

In 1834 Gov. William Badger of New Hampshire approved an act of the General Court declaring the westerly bank of the Connecticut to be the boundary of this state. The popular idea for many generations was that the line was at low water mark. Consequently all property on made land, ledges and beaches, below the general bank, had been considered in Vermont.

According to lawyers whom Rep. O’Neil consulted, the New Hampshire courts had decided that the boundary was above the beach at the point where the land breaks toward the stream. The property on the Bellows Falls side of the river under dispute was, at the lowest estimate, worth \$6,000,000.

Rep. O’Neil said “My lawyers’ words give me little doubt but that our contention is correct. The fact that a New Hampshire river furnishes the power practically without recompense for turning the Vermont mill-wheels, not only here, but the whole length of the state, first led me to investigate the question.”

Following O’Neil’s suggestion, Walpole attempted to tax those using power on the canal. Taxes were paid under protest beginning in 1912 and the matter went to the courts. A settlement was finally reached in 1923. (See TOWN BUSINESS.)

Following is a report of the final settlement of the boundary dispute between New Hampshire and Vermont.

The State of Vermont was early claimed under their original grants by both New Hampshire and New York. Even after Vermont was set up as a state there was protracted dispute over the boundary between New Hampshire and Vermont.

In late January 1933 (reported *New York Times* February 5, 1933) Special Master in Chancery Edmund F. Trabue filed with the Supreme Court his findings in regard to the boundary line between New Hampshire and Vermont. By its acceptance of the findings the Court settled a dispute which had continued for 150 years. The action in chancery was brought in 1912. When Senator Austin presented the case in 1927 he said, “Vermont’s claim is, first, the boundary line is the middle of the stream; or, second, if it is not that line, then it is the ordinary mark made by water on the west bank.”

New Hampshire held to the high water mark on the west bank and tried to tax some property on the Vermont side of the river under that claim. Vermont protested and started the suit in 1912. Later, after the



evidence was practically all in, New Hampshire amended its claim and sought to establish the boundary line at the top of the bank on the Vermont side of the river, which would have taken in even more property.

The findings of the special master placed the boundary line at the low water mark on the west bank of the river. He defined low-water mark as "the lowest point to which the river receded at its lowest stage," and again, "the lowest point on a river bank exposed in any recorded state of the water."

Vermont felt that she had gained "the major part and the greatest value of the territory in dispute," while New Hampshire's former Attorney General Ralph Davis considered it "substantially a complete victory for New Hampshire."

Available at the N. H. State Library is a copy of the "Supplemental Report of Samuel S. Gannett, Special Commissioner, ordered by the Supreme Court Dec. 21, 1936, being a Description of the Traverse Reference Line, Together with an Index Map of the Boundary Line" Dated Jan. 14, 1937. This is in addition to a report filed Nov. 23, 1936. Original notes and computation books of the survey of the line and all original exhibits of this cause are filed with the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

The taxation problem has been resolved. Walpole taxes the dam in the river.

#### MODERN POWER DEVELOPMENT

1922 marked the end of an era at the falls. Following a series of labor troubles, climaxed by a bad strike in 1921, the International Paper Company sold its holdings to the new Hydro-Electric Company and removed to Three Rivers, Quebec. For twenty-five years life on both sides of the river had revolved around the shifts at the paper mill, the whistles at 7 A.M., noon, at 12:45 and 1 P.M.

In 1912 control of the Bellows Falls Canal Company and the Fall Mountain Electric Light and Power Company passed from the Russell family to Chase & Harriman of New England Power. The Fall Mountain Company, organized 1900, was by 1908 one of the largest dealers in light, heat and power in New England, still obtaining its power from the old Bellows Falls Canal Company and the steam plant on the island.

In 1926 the new Hydro-Electric Company began to clear away the old mills "under the hill" along the canal and to buy up flood rights along the river in anticipation of building the new power station and dam. The new station when completed had three turbines, each 20,000 H.P. The canal was enlarged and improved, 100 ft. brim to brim, paved with



cement, sides protected with rip-rap set in cement framed bays, with a capacity increased from 1,000,000 gals. per minute to 4,200,000. Nine months of the year it takes all of the water from the river, leaving the Falls dry. The new dam was 11 feet higher than the 1908 dam. The two roller gates are horizontal steel cylinders, each 121 feet long, 13 feet in diameter and weighing 200 tons.

In 1948 the New England Power Company was authorized to buy the Bellows Falls Hydro-Electric Company for \$8,650,000. It is now the Fall Mountain Division of the Green Mountain Power Corporation.

Generation at this station averages 214,000,000 kilowatt hours annually. It is tied in with the interconnected transmission network of the New England Electric System.

#### INDIAN SCULPTURES

Just south of the west end of the Vilas Bridge there were in years gone by two or three large rocks on which were cut so-called Indian faces. By 1906 they were nearly obliterated. A portion of them was covered when the branch line to the paper mill was built from the railroad yard. This was about 1885. Others were concealed by cinders dumped from the boilers; and still others were destroyed by the frequent blasting of the river men to improve the channel.

These faces were crude petroglyphs cut in the coarse granite. In 1792 Belknap made no mention of them in his *History of New Hampshire*, although he described the surroundings in detail. However, in 1858 Kendall in the *History of Eastern Vermont* described them as being there in 1807-8. In 1802 the canal had been built, causing the water here in the main channel to be lower at certain seasons and exposing a greater surface of the rocks.

Curtis Phelps in his 1961 essay raised the question whether these petroglyphs were carved by Indians since they "appear not so much primitive, but more what an unschooled person might have thought appeared primitive". For more detail see the *History of Rockingham*.

#### FISHING

Fishing in the Connecticut River is well described in Hayes' *History of Rockingham*. When the white settlers arrived at the Great Falls, the Indians had been coming great distances for generations to fish here. The most abundant fish in early times were the salmon and shad which came in April and May from the Atlantic up the Connecticut to spawn. The building of dams across the river stopped these fish from coming as far



north about 1800. As long as salmon and shad were taken here in marketable quantities, the Connecticut River brands of both species commanded a fancy price, owing to their good size and delicate flavor.

Fishing on the river is now done for pleasure. The largest and best fish, in recent years, is the pike.

#### FERRIES

In 1773 Benjamin Bellows was granted the sole right of keeping a public ferry for one mile north and one-half mile south of where he was then operating a ferry. (*State Papers of New Hampshire*—Batchelder Vol. 25 P. 600) This was probably somewhere between Cold River and the Village Bridge. In 1786 he received another charter for a ferry from the Westmoreland line north three miles.

In 1774 one Wright was operating a ferry on the river somewhere near the Whitelight plant in North Walpole. In 1797 Josiah Gates had a ferry at some place on the river.

In 1792 John Bellows was given a ferry privilege between the two previous Bellows' grants. This was operated by Salmon Bellows who lived with his wife "Aunt Lydia" nearby. Mrs. Emily Barnes wrote: "At one time there was a violent northeast storm, the wind blowing a gale, when the stage from Boston, full of passengers, came to be ferried over to Vermont.

"He (Salmon Bellows) took the oars at the head of the boat, while a new hand rowed at the stern. When they got into the current, which was very strong, and some distance from the opposite shore, they began to drift rapidly down stream, while the wind threatened, at each gust, to overturn the carriage. The passengers were in a great fright, but Uncle Salmon, whose self-possession was proverbial, assured them, if they kept quiet, he would land them in safety. He then called upon a man to assist at the oar, for he was himself getting exhausted; it was much harder rowing up-stream than floating down.

"Aunt Lydia stood on the river bank all this time, watching the terrible, and, to her, uncertain struggle; she at last had the satisfaction of seeing them landed at the proper place in safety, and then betook herself to the house, and piled on the wood for a hot fire, ready for him when he should come in, as he did after another perilous pull on his return trip, wearing the same composure as though nothing had happened, and making no remark until she said, 'You've had a terrific pull, Salmon!' To which he only answered, 'Yes, kinder tough; but I cared more for those poor women! They had an awful scare, Liddy.' "



The suggestion that the ferry that Salmon Bellows tended was near the brook south of Melvin Ramsay's (#229) agrees with the deed for the Amos Butterfield place, with the *Bellows Genealogy* which puts it about  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles below the village, and with Jonathan Royce's survey of the town made in 1806. This was probably John Bellows' land when ferry rights were granted to him by the legislature.

#### LOG DRIVES AND BOATING ON THE RIVER

It is said that logs for masts for the English navy were floated down the Connecticut River as early as 1732, before there were any settlements in this area. One often comes across notes that trees were marked with the "broad arrow" to be left until needed for this purpose. It was a capital offense to cut a tree so marked.

We find in the state records June 24, 1814, "an act authorizing Josiah Bellows 2nd to float pine timber down Connecticut River, south of all dams and canals on said river . . . to float down unmolested to the Massachusetts line any time April 20 to December 1 except July and August, none to be put in above Walpole Village Bridge, and none but his own; any timber deposited on land belongs to the land owner unless removed within 10 days, and Bellows is liable for damage; before putting in he must give bonds to the owners of the Westmoreland and Hinsdale bridges." It was at about this time that the timber was cut on the Boggy Meadows.

In 1833 there is a record of Nelson Paul rafting white ash plank in the Connecticut River against Dunshee's land—probably sawed at Dunshee's mill on Great Brook and hauled to the river bank.

In 1838 there was a landing at Zachariah Carpenter's, probably not far from the mouth of Cold River. Lumber and "shooks of staves" were shipped down river from here. (A shook of staves is a bundle of staves and headings for a hogshead.)

We also find the following in 1838 "Pine and hemlock mostly manufactured for taking down the river to market and now lying in Walpole, a part in the millyards, a part in the highway near Thos. C. Drew's, part near Gardner Watkins, remainder at the landing near Zachariah Carpenter's." (*Record of Conditional Sales*)

Lumber to be sent downstream was made into rafts or carried on flat boats. The rafts were made up of six "boxes" which could be taken apart to pass through the canals. Rafting ceased about 1852.

After the process for making wood pulp into paper was perfected (1870's), many million feet of logs came down the river from the northern



woods in "drives", some for the mills at Bellows Falls, some for the mills downstream. August 25, 1883, a charter was granted to the Bellows Falls Boom Company (George Van Dyke et al.) "to erect and maintain booms and piers in and across Connecticut River from the dam of the Bellows Falls Canal Company for two miles upstream, also side or branch booms where necessary and to attach to the bank for the purpose of stopping, assorting or securing logs, masts, spars and other lumber floating down said river and said booms to be provided with sufficient and suitable assorting gaps; not to interfere with the reasonable use of the river as a public highway." Piers were put in nearly to South Charlestown January 1893, and probably also earlier.

The previous year in June, high water had broken the boom at Bellows Falls, letting the logs down river, and piling them up against the bridge at Brattleboro. The Fall Mountain Paper Company lost 3,000,000 feet which they sold downstream, then bought replacements from the Turners Falls Lumber Company.

From newspaper items we cull the following:

July 1873 the water was too low for the drive to be completed, there was a jam of 2000 logs at Walpole Village Bridge.

July 17, 1890 "the logmen had folded their tents and gone downstream. Forty horses and 84 men make a busy scene on the river as the logs are rolled and dragged into the current."

In June 1891 the river was the fullest ever of logs and in August 1891 the Fall Mountain Paper Company commenced hauling logs from the river, using two steam engines and two slips, taking until December to raise the immense pile in North Walpole.

June 15, 1893, "the advance guard of logmen has arrived and boomed the river above the falls. A few logs have come down, sluiced over the dam and run the falls. This year 70,000,000 feet, largest drive ever; no bother from low water, few bad jams. If the present high water continues the logs will all be over the dam by July 4. Part of the drive this year is what was left up north last year because of low water. The Fall Mountain drive held back until all the Connecticut River logs are past, will not start for several weeks." At the same time it was reported in the *Gazette* that the dynamiting of jams at the Falls could be heard at Walpole, that it was quite a sight to see them come over the dam, and that there was plenty of spruce gum.

July 13, 1893, there appeared in the Times an article entitled "Among The Logmen." The following are notes from that article:

"The camp is at North Walpole (they sometimes camped below the



bridge at North Walpole, sometimes near the Village Bridge in Walpole). The term Wangan is an Indian word first used to denote the large boat in which the supplies and camp equipage were carried, the term now refers also to the camp.

“When the ice breaks up in the spring the logs are on the banks of small streams running into the Connecticut. Since all drives must start at once to consolidate as soon as possible, a large force of men is necessary—600 at the beginning, as drives are connected the force reduced to about 230.

“At the beginning of the season part of the men are sent ahead to ‘boom’ bridges and bad places so as to turn logs into the main channel, and so far as possible prevent jams. With the main body of logs comes a large gang to keep the logs moving, to break up jams and sort out logs for various mills along the river. Following them comes the ‘rear’. The ‘rolling rear’ dislodges from the banks such logs as have been left by jams or the water. They have 40 horses, that, with the aid of snatch blocks, can do the work of many men. There are also blacksmiths and carpenters. Last comes the ‘floating rear’ which keeps logs moving and sees that no more become lodged. There are 160 men this year, having a hard time of it.

“The drive started 85,000,000 ft., the largest ever run—15,000,000 ft. left at McIndoes, 3,000,000 ft. here, balance to Northampton and Mt. Tom, from there to be run to Holyoke as needed. The Turners Falls 15,000,000 ft. is mixed with Van Dyke’s logs, distinguished by a different blaze, to be separated there. It will take until September to complete the drive, when the last of the men will be discharged, to wander back to camps up the river to go back to chopping when their money is gone. This is the longest drive in New England, over 300 miles.

“Falls here are worse than usual this year because of low water which has fallen faster than usual. The banks were full of water when the drive reached here, now there is barely enough water to float a log over the falls when the mills are running, consequently the mills have shut down most of the past week since the log drivers are entitled to the natural flow.

“Logmen’s hours are long, the work hard—bronzed faces, iron muscles, work night and day. They have four meals: breakfast at 4 A.M.—baked beans the main dish—continues until the food is gone, about 7; at 8 first lunch, another at one (1:00 P.M.)—fresh meat; supper at 7, bread and milk. The men eat from tin plates or pans, every man helps himself, stands or sits as he chooses—no tables. On the ‘rear’ there is a head cook with seven helpers. The men have good appetites. Besides cooking and



washing dishes the cooks move and set up tents, usually every day, except at some falls where long stops are made. When the rear reached here Tuesday, the men were tired and ragged. On their first time off most of them bought new suits of clothes, hats and underwear. This is all credit business, at one store, to facilitate settling at the end of the season. They will be paid by check, to be cashed at the store, the bill deducted. A large number are discharged here as soon as the logs are over the falls, pay amounts to about \$12,000. Logmen receive \$2 to \$2.50 a day and board, none until the end of the season. Anything they want is obtained for them and charged to their account.

“In past years the logmen have been considered a pretty tough class, drunkenness and fighting part of the daily diversion. This year they are very orderly and quiet, only four cases of drunkenness and those discharged next day.

“In breaking jams this year they are using ‘rack-a-rock’—about 75% nitroglycerine, twice as powerful as any used heretofore. There is about 1½ lb. to a charge. The cartridges are inclosed in water-proof case with water-proof fuse attached. Instead of boring a hole in a log, this is now tied to a stick which is placed between the logs. There have been no accidents from explosives and only one drowning.”

The last log drive went down the river in 1919. For interesting material on log driving see *Spiked Boots* by Robert E. Pike.

Hayes has a chapter in his *History of Rockingham* on “Navigation of the Connecticut”. We won’t take the space here to quote but will include, rather, notes from a news item from the *Bellows Falls Times* August 12, 1899. Allen Dunshee lived near the river all his life (85 years) and remembered flatboats in use (discontinued after 1850). “He remembered distinctly the little steamer which ran one season 65 or 66 years ago from Hartford to Bellows Falls. It was commanded by Capt. Griswold of Bellows Falls who had been a lumberman along the river, and it carried passengers and freight. At that time John Turner, who resided where Mr. Dunshee formerly did and afterwards moved to Alstead, kept a boatmen’s tavern and entertained the boatmen over night. (Probably present Barrett place #239.) They were hard drinkers and often kept him busy until midnight mixing toddy. The boatmen cooked their meals on the boats. Mr. Dunshee remembers that Capt. Griswold stopped his steamboat opposite Turner’s and took aboard Turner’s daughter and a young lady who later became Mrs. Dunshee, and brought them up as far as the village.”

The flatboats ran only spring and fall unless there was unusually high



water during the summer. There was little boat traffic after 1848 (coming of the railroad), but there were some rafts as late as 1852.

#### BRIDGES BETWEEN NORTH WALPOLE AND BELLOWS FALLS

In December 1783 the New Hampshire Legislature granted Col. Enoch Hale of Rindge a charter to build a toll bridge "at the great falls . . . and to have exclusive right . . . from the upper end of said falls to a rock opposite to a line between land of said Hale and John Hubbard Esq." In 1797 the privilege was extended to include two miles north and two miles south from the bridge. In 1804 the legislature set the rate of tolls—each passenger on foot 3¢, horse and rider 6¢, horse and chaise or sulky 12½¢. . . .

The bridge, built of squared timbers, stood at the site of the present Vilas bridge. It was not a covered bridge, but was a roadway 360 ft. long, 60 ft. above high water mark, with supports at each end and in the middle. The sides rose 6 or 8 ft. from the floor. This bridge was some 12 or 15 ft. lower than its successor (the Tucker Bridge), with a steep downward pitch in the approach at each end. This was the first bridge built across the Connecticut, and in its day was a great engineering feat. It was a hazardous undertaking, but was accomplished with only one fatal mishap, when a young man fell from the bridge onto the rocks below.

The river at this point rushes through a narrow gorge. The falls were described to prospective stage passengers in terms very like those used in later years to describe the marvels of Niagara to railroad passengers. In 1781 an Englishman described them thus in *History of Connecticut*:

"Two hundred miles from the Sound is a narrow of five yards, only, formed by two shelving mountains of solid rock; through this chasm are compelled to pass all the waters which in time of floods, bury the northern country. . . . The passage is about 400 yards in length, of a zigzag form with obtuse corners. At high water there are carried through this strait masts and other timber, with incredible swiftness, and sometimes with safety; but when the water is too low, the masts, timber, and trees strike on one side or the other, and are rent in one moment into shivers, and splintered like a broom, to the amazement of the spectator.

"No living creature was ever known to pass through this narrow except an Indian woman, who was in a canoe, attempting to cross the river above it, but carelessly let herself fall within the power of the current. Perceiving her danger, she took a bottle of rum she had with her, and drank the whole of it, then lay down in her canoe to meet her destiny.



She miraculously went through safe and was taken out of the canoe intoxicated. Being asked how she could be so daringly imprudent as to drink such a quantity of rum with the prospect of instant death before her, the squaw, as well as her condition would allow of, replied: 'Yes, it was too much rum to drink at once, to be sure; but I was unwilling to leave a drop of it, so I drank it, and, you see, have saved it all.' "

On October 30, 1879, while 2000 people watched, Capt. Paul Boyton passed through the falls in his rubber floating suit. The water was rather high, but not in flood. He went into the water just below the dam. Paddling as best he could, he was carried swiftly along, caught several times in eddies from which he had a hard pull to regain the current. Just above the railroad bridge, where the water rushes with the greatest force, he disappeared. The onlookers watched breathlessly for what seemed endless minutes, until he finally appeared at the eddy below the falls. He afterward admitted that it was the worst experience he had ever had and nothing would tempt him to repeat it.

Although a man of some wealth, Col. Hale became financially involved after building the bridge and the mansion, and mortgaged the bridge to Frederick W. Geyer, a wealthy Englishman of Boston. When the payment fell due, Hale sent the money to Boston by his son. On the way he met his wife from whom he had been estranged for several years. Making up took so much of his time and attention that he was late to Boston, and lost the bridge for his father. Mr. Geyer retained the bridge until his death in 1826 when it passed to his daughter Anna, wife of Nathaniel Tucker.

The rates of toll allowed by law were at first the same as had been allowed for ferriage. Because of the expense of toll the early stages did not cross the river, but proceeded past the east end of the bridge, the driver blowing his horn to warn prospective passengers who then walked across the bridge accompanied by their baggage in a wheelbarrow.

When the ice was firm, people drove their teams across both above and below the bridge. One very severe winter Mr. Geyer built a wall to prevent this practice, but Herbert Bellows with the help of other men and teams from Walpole tore it away. Failing otherwise to stop the travel on the ice, he spread salt on the road to spoil the sledding, but the teamsters covered it with water. The tolls were finally set at a more reasonable figure.

In 1840 the frame of the bridge was found to be somewhat decayed and a new bridge was built above the old one without interfering with traffic. A large crowd gathered to watch the workmen cut away the old



bridge after the completion of the new one in July 1840. It was allowed to drop into the river and was carried away.

The early toll gate was at the New Hampshire end. During much of his ownership Tucker collected the tolls. Cady Parks was also an early toll man. Powers Crossett assumed care of the bridge in 1837, after the death of Parks, and was in charge when the new bridge was built, remaining until 1849. For a short time he took toll at the Village Bridge. He returned here three or four years before he died in the toll house in 1865. Later gatherers were Nathaniel Monroe, Stillman Buss, Charles H. Sawyer, Frank L. Ranville and his son Charles who was in charge when the bridge was freed.

After Mr. and Mrs. Tucker died their grandson Edward H. Green owned the bridge, having bought the rights from the other heirs. In 1880 William A. Russell bought the bridge and owned it until March 17, 1902, when the Bellows Falls Canal Company bought it. November 1, 1904, the towns of Walpole and Rockingham bought it and made it a free bridge.

For town meeting in 1904 a special train from North Walpole stopped at every cross street and picked up every voter, some 287. W. H. Kiniry offered a resolution to free Tucker Bridge and build a new iron bridge above the dam, by borrowing \$45,000. T. B. Peck offered a substitute motion, not including the freeing of the Tucker Bridge. Feeling ran high. O'Neil from North Walpole held forth for an hour on this panacea for North Walpole—population would double, business would boom. Rockingham had already voted \$25,000 toward the project. The final vote was 314-214 for the Kiniry motion.

On Saturday November 5, 1904, ceremonies were held in memory of the toll bridge which was draped with bunting and placards. The parade, nearly a mile long, started at the square in Bellows Falls led by Wheeler's Band, and with D. M. Thayer as Marshal. There were floats, among them one by George B. Albee representing the two towns clasping hands across the chasm. The parade crossed the bridge, continuing up Church Street, through Russell to Main, and back to the Bellows Falls Opera House, where an historical sketch of the bridge was presented. In the evening there was a celebration at Russell Hall in North Walpole.

#### FITCHBURG RAILROAD BRIDGE

When the Cheshire Railroad was built in 1849 the depot for Bellows Falls was at the east end of the toll bridge. A few months later the railroad company built a wooden bridge north of the toll bridge. It was a



marvel in its day, with two spans each measuring 140 feet. It was a heavy pine frame, covered, with two tracks. The stone for the abutments came from a quarry close to the Rockingham-Springfield line. It was drawn down to the river by teams and loaded on scows which carried it to the canal where it was transferred to small cars on which it was run down to the site of the bridge by hand.

This bridge was judged unsafe in 1899 and was replaced by the present stone bridge, the construction taking place between September 13 and December 10 without interfering with train traffic.

#### SULLIVAN RAILROAD BRIDGE

At about the time of the completion of the railroad up from Brattleboro, the Sullivan Railroad built a similar bridge across the river at the dam, in 1851. This was replaced in 1882 with an iron lattice bridge which in turn was replaced by the present bridge in 1912.

The stone for the abutments was brought from Gould's Ledge (source of the stone for the Cheshire Railroad Bridge). It was brought to the river 10 rods south of the mouth of the Black River, dressed and numbered by a gang of Scotsmen. It was loaded onto flatboats and rowed down to the dam, close to the site of the abutments.

#### ARCH BRIDGE

The arch bridge built north of the dam between Bellows Falls and North Walpole was ceremoniously opened to traffic at 4 P.M., Monday, March 20, 1905, construction having been begun the previous summer. For removing the last obstruction W. H. Kiniry bought a new axe which he decorated with a yard of green ribbon. During the evening there were red fire, fire crackers, skyrockets, and fireworks, and the Citizens' Band played on the bridge and at Russell Hall. The bridge swarmed with people and the hall was not more than half large enough to accommodate the crowd. Coffee and 700 doughnuts melted like dew before the sun. F. A. Lebourveau, G. E. Sherman and C. H. Slade were seated on the platform but did not take part in the speaking program. This was North Walpole's great day, the end of having to cross to Bellows Falls by the old toll bridge or the Sullivan Railroad Bridge.

No money was spent to ornament this bridge, whatever it had of beauty being due to the structural lines. The location is natural for the construction of an arch, with firm, immovable abutments to resist the horizontal thrust at the spring of the arch. The roadway of the bridge



is suspended from the arch, the only bridge thus constructed in the United States up to 1905. The bridge at Niagara is a similar arch, but in that case the roadway is on top of the arch.

The bridge weighs 450 tons. The span over the river is 540 ft., the short span over the railroad on the Vermont side 104 ft. The highest point of the arch is 70 ft. above the roadway. The cost of this bridge and the freeing of the Tucker Bridge were met two-thirds by Walpole and one-third by Rockingham. The total cost of this bridge was \$44,939. There was also a permanent arrangement on the same ratio for the maintenance of the two bridges.

In November 1927 the roadway at the east end was completely washed away, along with houses on the river bank. The bridge abutment stood firm and the road was replaced.

#### WESTMINSTER-WALPOLE BRIDGE OR VILLAGE BRIDGE

June 17, 1807, a charter was granted for the erection of a bridge anywhere between the south line of Hale's grant or Geyer's Bridge at Bellows Falls and the Walpole-Westmoreland line. The first meeting of the corporation was held at Asher Southard's Inn in Walpole July 20, 1807. Josiah Bellows was elected moderator, Samuel Grant clerk, and Isaac Redington, Samuel Grant and Thomas C. Drew a committee to examine the river, procure a plan for a bridge and map the best route from the bridge to the village.

The bridge was built 540 ft. long, 28 ft. wide, on wooden piers, at a cost of \$5,852.00 (*1823 Gazetteer*)

A toll house, 30 x 20 feet or less, was built on the east side of the river and it was voted "to hire Peter Casper as toll gatherer if he can be obtained reasonable." He must have worked "reasonable", since he served for many years. In 1825 he was paid the munificent sum of one dollar a week, later increased to 1 shilling per day.

It was the practice to let individuals pass "by the year", settling their accounts quarterly. Proprietors had free passes. The Walpole-Brattleboro stage paid \$52 per year, quarterly. Rates were set by the charter. In 1813 it was voted "a toll board be provided for the Bridge showing the rates of toll."

As a rule a board of directors carried on the business of the corporation. Apparently something went wrong, for in 1824 the board was abolished and meetings of the proprietors were to be held monthly. At the same time they voted "If any person shall ride or drive any horse,



creature, team or carriage faster than a walk upon said Bridge he or she shall forfeit and pay a fine of twenty-five cents."

This zeal for meetings of the proprietors almost died aborning and by 1833 a "committee" was chosen "to give out tickets . . . and to manage the concerns of the corporation. . . ." In 1858 the board of directors was re-established and it was voted to repair the bridge by "replacing the present superstructure by a lattice bridge, relaying and raising the piers and abutments." For this purpose it was voted to raise \$4250 by assessing each share \$85.

A large portion of the west end of the bridge was carried away by ice March 17, 1868. Plans were made at the annual meeting in April to raise \$7000 for rebuilding the bridge. Nothing in the record book indicates success in this plan, although several meetings were held, only to adjourn, the last May 25, 1868. According to Hayes the west end of the bridge again fell October 20, 1869, caused by the undermining of the west abutment. According to Aldrich the west end was carried away the fall of 1867, re-erected, and October 1868 the east end went off. Hayes is in accord with the records in the first instance. The records are blank after May 1868.

"At a meeting of the proprietors Mr. Horace A. Perry, one of the stockholders, suggested the idea of relinquishing the entire property to the towns of Walpole and Westminster, provided that \$3000 should be raised by subscription, Walpole to raise two-thirds of the required sum; and that each of the towns, in the same proportion, should raise by taxation a sum sufficient to rebuild the bridge and thereafter maintain it as a FREE bridge.

"The matter was discussed at length pro and con, and the conclusion was that the suggestions were not feasible; but Col. A. Herbert Bellows thought differently. He immediately took the matter into his own hands, in a measure, and by unwearied patience, perseverance, hard work and much expense, carried out Mr. Perry's suggestions, and the result is a free bridge today. Some of the heavy taxpayers in the east part of the town and the west part of Westminster were somewhat disturbed at the time but not many could be found . . . today who would care to have a toll bridge instead." (*AH* 126)

The bridge was built, a frame truss structure, and opened for travel in the fall of 1870 with a grand celebration. It was in use until April 1, 1910, when it was destroyed by fire set by one Norrington, a colored man, residing near the depot in Westminster. His motive was to prevent



his wife from going to her work with the Holland family in Walpole. He was sent to state prison where he later committed suicide.

The next year the present bridge was built, two-thirds of the expense paid by Walpole, one-third by Westminster.

## WATER COURSES—

### TRIBUTARIES OF THE CONNECTICUT RIVER

#### GOVERNOR'S (SMITH, DUTCHMAN'S) BROOK

On Fall Mountain there were three ponds—North Pond originally on the north line of Walpole, now line between Langdon and Charlestown; Middle Pond and another small pond east of Table Rock.

North Pond was much the largest, an interesting place to find bog plant life. The North Walpole boys used to go up here and from a raft of their own making pick the water lilies which they sold for 5¢ apiece to the summer boarders on the White Mountain Express.

From North Pond a brook flows down to what is now Cray's Pond, made as a water supply when the packing plant was built 1910. The overflow runs on down to the mill pond on the north side of East Street. Holland Allbee had a sawmill here as early as 1858.

Near the mouth of Governor's Brook A. F. Nims built a sawmill in 1880, sawed annually 2,000,000 ft. of lumber, \$2,000 worth of pails. Nims owned all the land here along the river and had a tobacco field, his tobacco barn back of Shaughnessy's house on Spruce Street.

The Fall Mountain Paper Company bought this land 1888. At the mouth of the brook, south side, they had a sawmill which burned September 1894. The tall brick chimney stood for years, was finally pulled down and the brick used in the building now standing on the site, used for storage of tools, blacksmith shop, horse stable. The bateaux used in the log drives were kept nearby.

During early operations of the paper company the logs were taken out of the river and piled at the west end of Elm Street. About 1896 Reed & MacFarlane, contractors from Maine, established a new pile west of Spruce Street. The logs were later loaded onto cars and taken to the paper mills. Horses were used to do the switching, Mike Titer was an early teamster, later Edgar Jardine and Ned O'Brien.

For pulling the logs out of the river there was a raft on which were a donkey engine, a tripod 60-65 ft. high, braced with a stiff leg at the back and a mast on the bank. The logs were floated toward shore, then bundled to be taken from the water.



All lengths of logs came down the river. The longer ones were Van Dyke's, for lumber, taken farther downstream. What stopped here was under 18 ft. The short lengths for pulp began coming down about 1919.

#### COLD RIVER

Cold River rises in Crescent Lake (formerly Cold Pond) in the towns of Unity and Acworth, and flows through Lempster, Acworth, Langdon and Alstead into Walpole at Drewsville.

Running into Cold River from the south, east of Drewsville, there is a brook on which the Maynards (and others) had a tannery and wool pullery, still operated to some extent in 1891. Ice was still being cut from the pond there 1898 (by R. A. Howard). In 1902 the tannery was taken down, having outlived its usefulness. Foundations still mark the site.

The earliest mill on the river was probably on the bend in the river where Whitcomb's sand and gravel pit is now. Road records of 1781 indicate that Maj. Bellows had a mill here at that time and perhaps earlier. By 1783 he had mills at Drewsville. Maj. John Bellows in 1783 offered to frame a bridge over Cold River near his mills at Drewsville if the town would raise and cover the frame.

Apparently at this early date there was only one bridge at Drewsville over Cold River. Perhaps at some later time the river cut a new channel to the north, forming the island so-called and necessitating two additional bridges, one on the road to Langdon, the other on the road to Alstead. July 31, 1841: "To see what steps the town will take in relation to the new county road lately laid through Drewsville (replacing Cheshire Turnpike)—Voted: the town to build two bridges over Cold River in Drewsville this fall, that the south bridge be an open bridge, that on the north branch covered" (still a covered bridge 1892). The committee reported that the bridges "should be built on good stone abutments, that the present abutments must be laid over with the addition of long flat binding stones, that about 670 perch of stones would be necessary to construct the four abutments, which we think would cost about \$350. That a framed covered bridge of wood could be built across the south branch 58 feet long for about \$250, that the north branch of the river would require a bridge 70 feet long of the same construction, the cost \$350 . . . making in the whole \$1450. . . . Both bridges are now in a very dangerous situation, and if constructed as recommended with timbers instead of planks, all the materials could probably be furnished to complete both bridges this fall. . . ."





### *Deep Hole, Cold River*

March 17, 1892, the *Bellows Falls Times*' correspondent wrote: "The time is drawing near when the town will have to rebuild or extensively repair one or more of the three bridges over Cold River at this place. The two covered bridges have been built about 50 years and the question comes up shall they be replaced by wood, iron or stone. It is generally thought that a new iron bridge should replace the old red bridge."

The old Cheshire Turnpike seems to have crossed the stream at the very narrowest point at the head of the gorge, affording a magnificent view of the rock formations worn by the tumbling stream, probably the most rapid descent in its whole course. The dry laid stone abutment high on the south bank still stands intact. That on the north may have been the same construction, but at some later date was covered with cement. The old bridge was directed toward the Langdon Road. The present



bridge, a few feet to the east (upstream) is directed more to serve both the Langdon and Alstead roads.

A short distance upstream from the present bridge on the south bank there are still remains of the old mill dam as high as the bridge and between that and the bridge are foundations which were probably for the mill there. Here there is also a water gauge.

On the south bank west of the bridge abutments, high above the gorge, is the stonework above which were built the Fisher mills. Some of the stones have fallen from their places, but most are still there. From the south end of the bridge one may follow the old road through the trees and brush to these old mill sites. The present highway is supported by a wall, and the old road follows along its base, dropping down to the level of the mills which seem now to have hung on the edge of nothing. It is awesome to look from here down into the gorge. The old road swings back into the present road opposite the LaClair house.

Going downstream from the gorge along the north side of the river, one finds the old dam and foundations of the Pill Box Shop. Part of the water from here went to the other mills here, described in the Drewsville land records.

In 1898 William Kiniry of North Walpole bought mill rights here, and in 1899 a charter was granted to the Walpole Electric Light & Power Company—Wm. H. Kiniry, Patrick E. Griffin, Chas. J. O'Neil, John H. Hassett of North Walpole, Chas. M. Blake of Rockingham, incorporators,—for the purpose of generating, manufacturing and supplying electricity for light, heat and mechanical power, and furnishing same in Walpole, Alstead and Langdon. Said corporation was authorized to appropriate any dam sites on Cold River within one mile of the iron bridge at Drewsville which were not at the time in actual use as a water power. . . .

At the same time a group including some of the same names formed the North Walpole and Acworth Street Railway Company authorized to construct and operate an electric road from “a point at or near the B&M Railroad bridge in North Walpole southerly and easterly through the town of Walpole and in the vicinity and direction of Cold River through the southerly corner of the town of Langdon, and the towns of Alstead and Acworth to some convenient point in the village of Lempster. . . .” Fragments of the dreams passed on to others and finally died.

From 1870 to 1915 various parties connected with the brewery owned approximately what is now the Cold River Sand & Gravel Corporation land and the former Mountain Spring Trout Club. The former company has literally torn the place apart to obtain sand and gravel, primarily for



road construction. The Mountain Spring camp ground by the river has been used for many years for large picnics, clambakes, etc. The brewery had a pond here and cut ice in the winter.

On Mountain Brook, a tributary flowing from the south side of Fall Mountain, Gilbert Griswold had a sawmill, leasing from Samuel Wightman in 1815 and for some years thereafter. In 1842 Sanford Granger was there. The Langdon map shows sites of three sawmills.

The first bridge across Cold River seems to have been at the site of the present bridge on the road from Bellows Falls to Drewsville. The main road passed this way in 1762, but a bridge may not have been built until 1781, a covered bridge.

#### STONE ARCH BRIDGE OVER COLD RIVER

Soon after 12 o'clock during the night of May 18, 1907, Mrs. Charles Tole noticed at the west end of the old covered bridge a light which soon developed into a blaze. The family hurried to the scene, meeting others coming from the Mountain House. Nothing could be done, the bridge soon fell into the river. The fire was thought to have been started by a passing traveller or an incendiary. There was sentiment for a new iron bridge that would not burn, nor have to be snowed in winter. A special town meeting was held, a committee appointed to act with the selectmen to make plans, obtain bids and decide the type of bridge, reporting by July 2.

The committee, W. J. King, P. E. Griffin, J. W. Prentiss and Daniel Connors, with the selectmen decided on a stone arch bridge, J. O. Follett's bid being \$4000 compared with the United Construction Company bid of \$5800 for a steel bridge with concrete floor. In accordance with plans drawn by State Engineer Dean the bid was changed to \$4300 for a two arch bridge, the contract signed August 6, work to begin in ten days and to be completed in 90 days. All went well until the river rose due to heavy rains and carried out the wooden arch supporting the east stone arch, several tiers of stone falling to the river bottom. In fact, the wooden supports were twice washed out, delaying the work while the frames were rebuilt and the stones raised from the river. The completion time was extended to December 13, but another month was required. It was finally accepted by the selectmen January 31.

The bridge was built 100 feet between abutments, two arches of equal length, 19 ft. in height, springing from a pier in midstream. The outside width was 18 ft., coping of granite 8 inches above the roadway on each side, the town building the iron railing. The granite blocks, 2 ft. in





*Old Cold River Bridge*

depth, were brought from Fitzwilliam. The space between the arches was filled with concrete to a height of 10 ft., with drains at the sides, then sand and gravel. This bridge carried all the Route 12 traffic until the new road was built farther west in 1958 with its own bridge.

Farther downstream, 25 to 30 rods, the Third New Hampshire Turnpike Corporation built its bridge. Next downstream is the new Route 12 bridge, higher than any of the others, built in 1958. Next west is the railroad bridge, the present span replacing the old wooden bridge in 1897.

#### NORTH WALPOLE WATER SUPPLY

Prior to 1869 J. D. Bridgman had trout ponds on his land, destroyed by a flood October 4, with damage of over \$2000. A mill dam on the side of Fall Mountain gave way and flooded the trout ponds, liberating the fish and spoiling the ponds. A tame bear kept in a cage building nearby was carried down into the river where he struggled bravely, some of the time under water, exciting the sympathies of large crowds on the bank. Finally Frank A. George got a pole with a hook on the end, caught it in the bear's chain and pulled him out of the river.



In the early 1870's Mr. Nathaniel Monroe purchased a spring, situated above the mill pond as it was in 1899, for \$100. From this spring he laid a 2½" lead pipe to his house and, having a surplus of water, he began to furnish new residents. Finding the supply inadequate to meet the growing demand, other springs were brought in. Dorr Adams sold water rights to Monroe reserving only the flow from a one-inch pipe for his barn. Soon after the 1869 freshet, referred to above, the various springs were consolidated, a pumping station put in and a reservoir built on the hill above. This was the main water supply of the village.

In 1892 Monroe was selling water to 181 families, there being only 16 or 17 who did not buy water from him. The +7000 gal. reservoir 40 feet above the village was fed by a few springs from above, but mostly from springs where the Bridgman fish ponds had been. The water was raised to the reservoir by a large water wheel which Mr. Monroe planned to replace with a steam engine. The main supply flowed through a 3½" cement pipe, but some families were still supplied by the first pipe which had been in use 20 years.

In July 1893 North Walpole Fire District was constituted a Water District to see what could be done about buying Monroe's water system, price \$15,000.

In 1895, Mr. Monroe, finding himself by reason of age and infirmity unable to oversee the system, sold it to William H. Kiniry, Charles J. O'Neil, Patrick E. Griffin and John H. Hasset as the North Walpole Aqueduct Company. In the hands of these enterprising young men the system was improved. The main pipes used by Mr. Monroe were abandoned and replaced by an 8" iron pipe. Connections for hydrants were placed at suitable points and a new reservoir built to furnish sufficient head for fire protection.

In 1899 the system was supplying 225 faucets.

In 1901 the North Walpole precinct bought the North Walpole Aqueduct Company for \$27,000. During the fall of 1901 several special meetings were called at which rates and regulations were established. The rates included: For each family or faucet \$4.00; Waterclosets \$2.00; Bath tubs \$2.00; Per horse \$2.00; Per cow \$1.00.

By 1911 there was concern about the volume of water, especially under heavy demand such as a fire. The supply was supposed to be adequate for 80 gals. per day per family. Cisterns which could be filled from the village supply had been located back of the J & W Market, at the north end of Center Street and near the corner of Main and River Streets. A brick reservoir had been installed on East Street before 1920. This was



abandoned just before World War II after the Village reservoir (over 300,000 gals.), was constructed on the mountain back of Patrick Bowen's. The pumping station between Lloyd's and Reardon's maintained the head at the reservoir level. In 1950 a deep well, drilled near the pumping station, served to augment the supply from the springs which was still somewhat limited. A chlorination system was installed about 1956. In 1959 another well, 280 feet deep and with a flow of 40 odd gals. per min. was drilled by the Village on Cray property but has been capped and unavailable pending litigation over lack of a deed. As of 1962 concern over the water supply indicates that action will be forthcoming to obtain a greater supply, probably from driven wells.

Concurrent with the Village water supply for domestic use has been another supply, not connected, for fire fighting. There was, in addition to the cisterns, a main with hydrants running on Church Street from the location of the fire house to River Street. This was supplied by a large wood water tank owned by the Boston & Main Railroad. This was purchased in 1959 for one dollar. After a 40 horsepower pump was installed at the river to keep the main filled, the wood tank was torn down.

#### ABENAQUI MINERAL SPRINGS

On the bank opposite the Cecil Patch place (#528) on the road from Walpole Village to North Walpole, about two-thirds of the way up from the old Kilburn Meadow, was an old mineral spring said to have been visited by the Indians who believed in the curative powers of its waters, especially in the case of eruptive diseases. This spring was included in the tract purchased by Samuel Wightman in 1801, and it came to be known as the Wightman Spring.

The spring was not developed until after the coming of the railroad. As a part of the tourist business in connection with the Island House, Algernon Sidney Baxter bought two acres of land, including the spring. Following is a portion of the report of the analysis he had made of the water:

“. . . One gallon afforded 13.34 salts dried at 200°F. . . . decomposed into Crenate of iron 7.10, Crenate of lime 4.11, Chloride of sodium, sulphates of soda and lime and silica 2.13. . . . It is well known that the protoxide salts of iron are among those tonic medicines on which the greatest reliance is placed, and chalybeate waters are also known to possess the highest restorative properties. In view of these facts, I do not hesitate in expressing my belief that this will be found a valuable medi-



nal water. Respectfully, A. A. Hayes, State Assayer, 1 Pine Street, Boston, 27th February, 1851."

. . . The spring was substantially walled in, making a large reservoir in the side of the hill, and a pavilion erected over it. Pipes led from the spring into a large granite fountain for drinking, from which the water was bottled and also sold in bulk. From this fountain the waters were conducted into the top of a building in which were bath tubs and shower baths, that were patronized by thousands.

The grounds were artistically laid out, the spring being so far up on the hillside as to admit of several reservoirs, or "offsets", as they were termed. Another building contained a bowling alley, and there was a dancing pavilion. The buildings were all of a Gothic style of architecture and presented an inviting appearance. . . . Public teams were run on pleasant days during the summer season once in two hours between the Island House and the spring.

With the decline of the tourist business of the Island House, the popularity of these springs lessened. The buildings gradually fell into decay, the last one disappearing about 1870. . . . The two acres of land carved out of the Wells farm passed into the possession of Thomas N. Keyes, later to Henry C. Rawson.

#### BLANCHARD BROOK AND COLBURN MILL POND #467

A short distance west of the Hubbard Road to Drewsville and south of the Four Corners on the Valley Road is Blanchard Falls. At the foot of these Falls Col. Benjamin Bellows had a saw and grist mill from which he was returning the day the Indians attacked the Kilburns. This mill is mentioned in a deed between Atkinson and Bellows January 8, 1756 (*Rockingham, N. H., County Records*). According to deeds it belonged to John Rice in 1797 and 1805.

Joshua Quinton is said to have had a clothier's mill on Blanchard Brook near the Hubbard Road about 1793 but we have reason to doubt this. At that time there was a Joshua Quinton down near the Wellington Meadows who was a clothier.

There is some indication that there was a natural body of water where the mill pond is. In 1818 an indenture was made by Thomas Bellows granting to the owners of the gristmill here, so long as "they shall keep and maintain a good and sufficient gristmill on or near where said gristmill now stands", "to turn the water in Sikes Brook near the Sikes place" and flow through Bellows' land to the mill pond. One of the later owners of the mills at the Mill Pond was forced to install a power grinder, to con-



vert grain into meal, at a cost of \$1100.00 in order to keep this right.

In 1826 Tarbell and Hurlburt bought the mill property. Hurlburt had clothing works farther west (downstream) on the brook while Tarbell had mills (probably saw and grist) by the highway, west side. They recorded an explicit agreement on rights to the water.

The lower mill dam was where the new road was built in 1961. Sometime about 1858 the lower mill became a gristmill and the upper continued as a sawmill. In 1850 Uriah Newton reported sawing 1,500 logs (200,000 ft. of lumber) all by water power with one up-and-down saw and grinding 12,520 bu. of grain into meal with nine run of stone. (Run of stone is pair of millstones.) The gristmill had fallen into disuse by 1913.

Selkirk, and later Colburn, had a cider mill here, making in 1880 over 1200 barrels.

In October 1879 John Selkirk had a dredging bee, his friends and neighbors turning out with some dozen yoke of oxen. Fifteen to twenty men spent a day dredging the lower part of Blanchard Brook to turn all the water to the Mill Pond.

While John Selkirk owned here, he started the ice business, having an ice house on the south side of the pond (1887) east of the road. In 1890 he moved it to the north side of the pond. In 1892 the Colburns added an ice house just below their mill and another one in 1893. One horse was used to raise the ice into the house. The Colburns were the first to establish regular ice delivery during warm weather. This was continued by Mathers until electric refrigeration made ice no longer profitable. In 1895 the Colburns stored 650 tons of ice.

The Mill Pond was a favorite fishing ground. Within one week in February 1895, seven hundred pickerel were taken from the pond.

In the fall of 1892 the bridge was washed out and a new one of railroad irons covered with stone was built. In the fall of 1907 the mill flume was washed out and the pond drained dry. This was rebuilt in December.

While Copley Amory owned the Homestead Farm, he built two reservoirs on the hill above the pond, one on the east side of Hubbard Road, the other on the west side. The work was done by Italian laborers from Boston (1901). When water was low, the lower pond was filled from the upper.

#### MAD BROOK

Mad Brook drains the hills directly east of the village. One branch rises in the Cranberry Swamp on the north side of the highway easterly



from the Country Club, the water on the other side of the road flowing into Great Brook. Another branch is east of Reservoir Road, supplying the town water supply there. Farther down, on the Turner Farm (#422), Joseph Thatcher had a tannery 1785-1791. That part of the brook east of School Street flows down through a deep cleft known as Academy Ravine, a most picturesque spot, a favorite retreat of Louisa May Alcott during her stay in Walpole. In 1930 this tract was given to the town precinct as a memorial to Henry Whitney Bellows and Frederick Newman Knapp.

On June 20, 1850, a little past noon, two storms converged east of the village bringing rain and hail, accompanied by a strong wind. The hailstones were said to be as large as partridge eggs. In less than thirty minutes three large streams of water from the east so swelled Mad Brook that it carried away everything in its path. Three cows belonging to the villagers were taken from the rubbish, one dead and one minus a horn. When the flood reached the railroad culvert, the water rose to the top of the embankment which, together with the heavy masonry of the culvert, gave way. The blocks of stone weighing a ton or more were carried across the river where they were embedded in the sand for many years thereafter. People had to go to Keene to find enough glass to repair their windows. Roads were badly washed and some bridges carried away.

In 1787 David Stevens, tanner, bought a piece of land on the east side of North Main Street and built a tannery which remained there until it was burned in 1847 while owned by Harvey Reed. At that time there was a carriage making shop (French) on the second floor. See land records.

On the west side of North Main Street Thomas C. Drew is supposed to have had a brickyard probably early in the 1800's.

About 100 ft. west of North Main Street on the south bank of the brook, there remains a trace of a stone abutment which had to do with the water-power woodturning lathe of Ebenezer Crehore. The brothers Warren and Alvin Colburn were the last owners and operators of this Crehore lathe, which they superseded with modern machinery in 1912 when they built for a complete woodworking shop what is now Mrs. William Lane's barn (#37).

On the old lathe Crehore turned the spindles for the pew ends for the first meeting house on Prospect Hill. Identical banisters for the elegant balustrades of several Walpole houses indicate that Ebenezer made a template which he used in making banisters for himself and other builders. Among these houses are the Cutter and Spitzli homes.

While John Crafts was still living, he bargained grist mill and pondage



rights on the brook downstream from Elm Street to Aaron Hodgskins. He apparently built a gristmill and a house. (See land records.) This was long known as the Mead Mill (#17). In connection with his milling business Moses Mead is said to have manufactured rakes of superior quality which were in great demand wherever known. His son David continued the business.

In later years Augustus Faulkner had a shop here. There were in recent years two buildings here—the mill, and to the north a blacksmith shop. The mill was burned in 1961, the shop is in a state of disrepair. William J. Hall had a cabinet shop here where he reconditioned antiques. Charles Russell had a wheelwright shop here.

#### WALPOLE VILLAGE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM

In the earlier days of Walpole Village the matter of water supply and sewage disposal was the concern of each householder and many “rights” are included in the deeds. There were private wells and springs and some of them at least semi-public in nature. When Westminster Street was laid in 1807 it began “a little north of cistern, being southeast corner of Craft Tavern lot” and in another description “in a range with the north end of the brick store”. It was probably this same reservoir that in 1882 was being covered with stone to make room for carriages, providing a water tank (probably a watering trough) at the east side. There seems at that time to have been a shortage of such in the village. It was for a time covered by the bandstand which was removed 1889 when the Walpole Band was disbanded.

In 1873 we find a record of an appropriation of \$175, part of which was for repairing and building reservoirs, but no mention of any specifically. There was one near Robert Sawyer’s house (#74), one above ground near the walk to the front door of the Porter place (#174), one at the corner Westminster and River Streets by the Town Hall, one between the Walpole Inn and the Bank; one at High Street near store on Main Street (with pump); pump and trough on Turnpike and North Main. It was about this time or a year or two earlier during a season of severe drought that the latter well was dug by voluntary subscriptions and labor at the fork of the road by Henry Allen’s harness shop.

Many springs were piped from the top of High Street Hill. The overflow from springs was carried in an underground aqueduct, probably pump logs and/or soapstone pipes, down Union Street. There was a brick water house in front of the Porter place and another at the south end of the Common.



In December 1876 we find that there was the prospect of a town pump at the well at the junction of Main and Turnpike, and by late January it seems to have become an actuality. A half hogshead served as a tub for the water, but not until Roswell Blanchard, sexton of the cemetery, installed one at his own expense was there a pump early in 1877. The precinct accepted the pump, but never paid for it. The water came to be known as Blanchard's Tonic. This was a favorite rendezvous of the neighbors, gathering to exchange news and views as well as to obtain water.

By 1883 the old pump and tub had worn out in public service and the users clamored for new. The old pump was reconditioned, then replaced by subscription. In September somebody stole the pump—it was hoped they would catch him when he came back after the well. In October Warren Jennison furnished a new half hogshead, hooped by Fred Lebourveau, to replace the old tub. After another pump was obtained, the stolen one was found one day padlocked to it, with lines in rhyme attached. This pump was again replaced in 1898 and with the one on High Street was the last to remain in public use.

By 1893 there was discussion of water and sewer problems. Pipes all too frequently froze in winter, springs and wells failed in summer. There was an obnoxious sewer that came down High Street, then Turnpike. Even the hotel dumped raw sewage into it and the odor was both unwholesome and unpleasant. Bath tubs and "closets" were being installed in increasing number.

Finally, after the public wells had been pumped dry once or twice in September 1899, forty or fifty townspeople came together to discuss their problems with an engineer. He suggested a reservoir east of the village near Charles Burt's to flood 5 acres, to provide a fall of 300 feet, at an estimated cost of \$20,000. Following discussion of this proposal and the sewage problems T. N. Hastings, Dr. A. P. Richardson, J. W. Hayward, and O. J. Butterfield were chosen a committee to confer with the street commissioners and to hold a precinct meeting if advisable. Some were in favor of a syndicate, some opposed.

In the fall of 1902 Copley Amory, in connection with his development of what became the Walpole Inn, laid a sewer from the foot of the hill on High Street, along High Street and Westminster Street, and westerly into the river southerly of the Woodward plant. This became a part of the present sewer system.

February 17, 1903, Copley Amory and six other Walpole men were granted a charter as the Walpole Water and Sewer Company for furnish-



ing people with a supply of pure water, for extinguishing fires, for manufacturing and other uses, and provide sewers for the village. The first meeting of the incorporators was held at Keene in June 1904 with Wallace L. Mason of Keene, Harry B. Hurd of Walpole and H. E. Cowan of Boston chosen as directors and Judge John E. Allen as clerk. In July the Village Precinct voted unanimously in favor of the project, contracting for 20 hydrants for 10 years at not over \$25 per hydrant per year. August 8 construction was begun with 60 Italian workmen starting the digging at the foot of Prospect. The crew of Italians, ranging from 60 to 125 in number, was housed in a 60-foot building put up on the discontinued road north of the former hill meeting house.

In digging across Main Street old pump logs were found, antecedents of freestone, lead and iron pipe. At the foot of Prospect there had been a corduroy road, buried 4 feet deep. On Union Street an old well was uncovered.

The Watkins pasture, so-called, near the head of High Street was bought and a dam put across the brook, 225 feet long, 21 feet high, spillway 15 feet wide and 2 feet deep. The resulting pond covered about two acres with a capacity of 3,000,000 gallons—sufficient for 700 persons for 100 days at double average consumption. The water was carried by 4 inch pipe to the boundary line of the pasture, by 6 inch pipe to the filter house built on a small piece of land bought from the Rowe Wier farm, 35 ft. x 30 ft. x 9 ft., with a cement floor. By 4 inch pipe the water was carried to the distributing reservoir, 5500 feet from the dam. Fall from dam to filter was 20 ft., filter to reservoir 140 ft. The reservoir was on land of H. B. Hurd on Prospect Street, circular, 50 ft. diameter, 18 ft. deep, 250,000 gallon capacity—a week's supply. When full, the surface of the water was 221 ft. above the Square, flow line of dam 387 feet above the Square. Pipes to the village were 10 inch cast iron down Prospect to School Street, 8 inch on Main Street to High, 6 inch on all other streets with hydrants except 4 inch on Turnpike beyond stone bridge. There were 21 hydrants, all buildings in the village within 400 ft. of a hydrant. There was a gauge at the Savings Bank to show the height of water in the reservoir. Chemical analysis showed the water to be of excellent quality, slightly harder than spring water, much softer than well water. There was at first a slight taste of tar from the lining papers in the pipes, but that soon disappeared. There was much later a meter at every house.

Construction progressed so that by the middle of November it was nearly complete and the last 36 of the workmen returned to Boston. Water was let into the houses of 60 to 70 families during September.



The following June the pipes were extended north on Elm Street. In 1946 pipes were extended to the new Hubbard hatchery, in 1953 to the Homestead Development.

In 1945 the Walpole Village Precinct voted unanimously to buy for \$40,000, the Walpole Water and Sewer Company.

More recently there has been added to the system the water from a well off the Watkins Hill Road beside Great Brook, the water pumped from there into the system. Accumulated silt had lessened the original capacity of the reservoir.

#### BUTTERNUT BROOK

Butternut Brook crosses the highway at the south end of the village at the junction of Wentworth Road and Route 12, having come down along the west side of Prospect Street from Meeting House Hill. At this point at the south end of Main Street Benjamin Bellows had a potash in 1774. On the west side of Route 12 here, James Bundy Jr. had a blacksmith shop as early as 1779, later used as a hat shop, wheelwright shop and finally as a shoe shop. It was very close to the brook. After its days of manufacturing it became a dwelling house, torn down by Shaw. See land records.

There was a cider mill on the O'Brien Farm (#217) on this brook and Hubbard Bellows had a distillery. Around 1836 there was a brickyard in this vicinity, Lawrence Leonard and later George McNeil.

#### GREAT BROOK

Great Brook has had more mills on it than any other brook in town, probably because it is the longest and has the greatest drop in its course. On the branch rising on Eaton Hill, Moses Fisher had a mill where cotton yarn was manufactured. By the time the brook reached the March Bridge two branches had joined that from Eaton Hill, Williams Brook coming down from the direction of Walpole Valley and March Brook from the valley between Derry Hill and Fay Hill. There at March Bridge Josiah Hubbard built a mill, later owned by Eliphalet Fox, Phinehas Hutchins, Isaac and Asahel Bundy, Jonathan Royce, John March, and Joshua March.

From some references it appears that there may have been a shop of some kind where Great Brook crosses the Watkins Hill Road.

Samuel Martin had a mill on the west side of the County Road on Graves' land (#317) about 1820.

Up the County Road a short distance north of (#317) there is John





Esther M. Andros

OLD LANE'S MILL

Graves Pond, a made pond. This was mowed in the summer so that there wouldn't be grass in the ice harvested the following winter. (In 1898 clear, 12 inches thick.) Farther to the south, on the west side of the County Road is Tom Graves Pond, also draining into Great Brook. Both are good locations for water lilies.

On Allen Holmes' land on the west side of Wentworth Road there were several mills on the brook. One wonders how, with so little drop, but it is understood that an undershot water wheel was used. In 1810 Asa Titus reserved use of the water for a carding machine, inventory of his estate



1814 listing 4 machines for dressing cloth. Bradford Brown was here from 1826.

There is said to have been an iron works here sometime (Edith Tiffany).

The most important mills on the brook were on Route 12, generally spoken of as Lane's Mills. There were mills here as early as 1771 (Graves), in 1781 referred to as Edgill's Mills, although no deed appears to such a party. Jonathan Gates sold to Ephraim Lane. See land records for owners. The sawmill was close to the road, west side, and the grist mill was farther downstream (the old foundations still there 1961). While Charles Hawks owned the property in 1895, a subscription was made to raise money for the installation of a gasoline engine to supplement the water power for the grist mill. The mills are all gone now, but the site has through the years been a favorite place for bathing.

In 1800 James Allen had a sawmill on Great Brook down toward the River Road, on the Aaron Allen land. Samuel Turner sold this same millspot to Elisha Mack before 1813.

There is now a swimming pool by the brook, east side of River Road. (See Decades)

On the west side of the River Road near the brook there was at one time a cider mill.

On the river near the mouth of Great Brook there seems to have been a boat landing of sorts and some facility for sending lumber, etc., downstream in 1833.

#### HOUGHTON (FAY OR WHIPPLE) BROOK

Houghton Brook flows from the south side of Derry Hill down through Christian Hollow. There in the point between the roads Adams Whipple is said to have had his iron works. Farther downstream was a pool beside the road which in season served for baptisms and for washing sheep, also another one near Wentworth Road used for the same purposes. Down beyond the Wellington meadows Joseph Fay had a sawmill, and below there is Fay Falls.

On the east side of Wentworth Road there was at one time (1794 on) a sawmill, and in 1812 a carding machine. It was here that Jonathan Chase commenced his tanning business which led to an extensive shoemaking business. (See Manufacturing)

West of Route 12 were the Lock saw and grist mills, run by Philip and/or Jacob Lock as early as 1800, later owned by John and/or Samuel



Martin. This was on the east line of the Chandler Farm. The grist mill was gone by 1816.

#### WIER (ALDRICH) BROOK

Next south, sometimes in Westmoreland, is Wier or Aldrich Brook. It is about on the town line where it crosses Route 12. Whatever mills may have been on this brook were probably in Westmoreland. Joseph and/or William Barrett may have had a millsite near old Rt. 12 before 1792, or possibly this is the same as Lock's Mill.

#### MERRIAM BROOK

On the east side of Carpenter Hill there is Merriam Brook which flows into the Ashuelot River. Richard Merriam had a sawmill on this brook north of the old road. (See land records and *History of Surry*.)





*Old Village Store, Drewsville*

## Chapter V

### BUSINESS

#### AGRICULTURE

IT IS NOT known positively whether Indians ever occupied Walpole permanently and tilled the soil, but it is well known that in May and June at least they collected in the vicinity of the Falls for the shad and salmon fishing.

There is sufficient evidence to warrant the conclusion that there were large numbers of Indians who lived a part, if not all the year, near the mouth of Cold River. In the immediate vicinity and also a half mile to the south the plough-share of civilization has unearthed Indian skeletons, spear-heads, arrow-heads, heaps of clam shells and numerous other relics which indicate that the Indians more than passed by the place. They were attracted not only by the fishing, but by the healing qualities of the water from what were known as the Abeniqui Springs.

Through the years Walpole has been one of the leading agricultural towns of the state. Its soil is thus described in the *History of Cheshire & Sullivan Counties*: "The soils of the town on the river and tablelands east are fluviatile, while back on the hills they are more tenacious, being a heavy loam, with sometimes an admixture of clay; most of the soils are arable and well suited to all kinds of farm crops of this region. Fruit



trees of all kinds produce well but the peach, which does not do well here now; but apple and pear trees yield an abundant harvest."

The rock formations under most of the town are Devonian. A band of Bethlehem Gneiss extends around Fall Mountain from North Walpole to Drewsville. With the exception of a little Clough and Partridge formation in the southeast corner the balance is all Littleton formation. Pegmatite outcroppings appear on many of the hilltops in the east of the town. Three of these which have been worked for feldspar at one time or another are known as the Ramsey Hill, Chickering and Damaziak mines or prospects.

A low grade of graphite has been explored just west of the Hubbard road to Drewsville and southeast of #527. Elsewhere reference is made to the paint mine which endeavored to exploit the red oxide of iron deposits which the Indians were said to have used for war paint. The location must have been near "Paint Mine Hill". Also near Cold River are the extensive sand and gravel deposits which have without doubt been the most valuable mineral workings in the town.

John Kilburn was the first farmer in town, settling where the marker now records his battle with the Indians on Rt. 12 south of Cold River. He was followed in 1752 by Col. Benjamin Bellows who settled the Homestead, some to the south, also on Rt. 12. Next settled was the present village and south on Wentworth Road. One would have to travel far to find a lovelier pastoral scene than that which greets the eye when one emerges from the woods driving from Rt. 12 toward the old Hooper places on top of the hill (now Hicks, Roentsch, Lewis) on Wentworth Road. Next settled was the south part of the River Road, south of Boggy Meadow. Access was by a road which crossed over from Rt. 12 at Beatrice Graves'. Boggy Meadow was not cleared for more than eighty years after the first settlement of the town. This is perhaps the most arable and productive section of town, but due to its very bogginess and the exceedingly heavy growth of timber, it appeared as a generally discouraging proposition. There is also another rather good reason. This was part of the share of Theodore Atkinson, and he never came to Walpole to develop his holdings. He and Col. Bellows divided the town between them, having bought the shares of the other grantees. Atkinson was supposed to have one-third, Bellows two-thirds. This was the most valuable part of Atkinson's share, about a thousand acres here.

Farms were cleared along the Watkins Hill Road, some around Britton's (#413) at least by 1770 (Bundy). This road was cut to the Surry line very early and down there on the line, before the Revolution, were the



Merriams. The Carpenter Hill section with Josiah Goldsmith at his tavern was pre-war also.

Ramsay Hill was settled before the war, Col. Bellows having sold farms there before 1770. By 1781 there was a network of roads over most of the town except for Derry Hill and the Rapids which were not opened until the 1790's. Derry Hill was another section which belonged to Atkinson. He had William Heywood, a farmer-surveyor from Charlestown, survey the whole tract for him, and his recorded comments on the quality of the land in each 100-acre tract are most interesting, especially at this vantage point in time when one can observe the accuracy of his judgment. Except for what the Kingsburys are tilling on Derry Hill, the farms on Fay Hill and those on March Hill Road, most of this tract has reverted to forest or is fast doing so. This is the highest part of Walpole, over 1300 feet elevation and was originally covered with a heavy growth of beech, birch, and sugar maple timber, most of which was cut off by the settlers. However, there is still a predominance of hardwoods. (Also, see *AH* 7 on.)

The Rapids, cleared and settled by some of the same families as Derry Hill and at about the same time, no longer is tenanted, although some of the land is still worked to a certain extent by farmers from elsewhere in town.

The Valley in early days was rather forbidding. The land was covered with a dense growth of hemlock; the soil was wet, sterile, and covered with angular boulders. It was, however, later traversed by the Cheshire Turnpike and was not so remote from the stream of commerce as it had seemed. The land was pretty well broken up and never did lend itself to the development of large prosperous farms as did some other sections of the town.

#### LUMBERING

During the early settlement much of the timber was cut off to get it out of the way for agricultural pursuits, as well as for building purposes. Some was burned, there being a ready market for hardwood ashes. In the *Museum* in 1798 we find that Bellows & Stone will receive salts of lye or ashes in payment for goods, and Moses Johnson will pay 1 shilling 2 pence per bushel for hardwood house ashes. There are also ads for potash and pearlash kettles. The wood ashes were leached by allowing water to trickle down through them, the resulting lye was evaporated, usually in iron pots. The calcined residue was crude potash; when purified, it was called pearlash. The chief need for this product was for the making of soap, by adding it to fat.



There were in town several "potashes", usually located near brooks for a supply of water. Benjamin Bellows had one in 1774 at the south end of Main Street; Amasa Allen had one on his land on the River Road (now Leighton Bridge (#231)); there is said to have been one a short distance south of the present Vilas Bridge; one on the old Eaton place (#582) north of the "Seward Pasture" on the south side of the Valley; one on the old Fenton Place (#566) in the Valley.

Another use for the wood was the manufacture of charcoal. In the 1830's Thomas Cunningham mortgaged "all the wood in the wood yard . . . also a lot of wood on Fall Mountain being about 60 cords, also the bin of coal on Fall Mountain of about 200 bushels" and later "the wood for a coal pit set up to burn on Ebenezer Morse's land on Fall Mountain. . . ."

Great quantities of wood were used for heating houses and for cooking. March 1799 we find this ad in the *Museum*: "Those persons who expect to pay for their papers in wood are requested to bring it in this week." Everyone had his woodpile—William Mitchell: "21 cords in my woodpile in my garden". In the early days when all the wood was burned in fireplaces, it did not have to be worked up so much as after the advent of stoves. In the 1830's there were all kinds of stoves—the cast iron box stove, Conant's Patent Cooking stove, Wilson's Patent Cook Stove, Rotary Top Cook Stove. . . . When wood had to be worked up more, we find one of "John and Luke Hale's machines of their improvement for applying animal power for the purpose of sawing firewood" about 1833 and Henry Mellish's "one horse power and circular saw" . . . ; later sawing was done with gasoline engines. Around 1890 householders were installing furnaces, steam heat.

In the few years preceding 1876 the number of coal users in town increased from three to sixty, the price ranging from \$7.25 to \$8.50 per ton at the Walpole Depot, through a Bellows Falls dealer. The next year the price was \$5.50 for egg, \$6.00 for stove, between 300 and 400 tons being sold in one week in October. In 1895 F. A. Spaulding sold about 1,000 tons of coal. In 1903 there was a coal famine; everyone was hauling wood at \$6.00 and \$8.00 per cord.

Before 1800 there were at least five or six sawmills in town: James Allen's on Great Brook east of the River Road; Jonathan Gates on Great Brook on Rt. 12; Richard Lock's on Houghton Brook west of Rt. 12; Jonathan Royce's near March Bridge on the March Hill Road on Great Brook; Fairbanks at Drewsville; Richard Merriam's on Merriam Brook in the southeast part of town; Chapin's on Governor's Brook in North



Walpole; on Josiah Gilbert's land on the brook on the south slope of Fall Mountain after 1800. In 1870 there were two sawmills in town, yearly payroll \$4,000, producing 220,000 ft. shingles and laths, 1,100,000 ft. boards and dimension timber, total value \$20,000.

As was true in other towns in the Connecticut Valley there was heavy stripping of the forests of Walpole between 1890 and 1910. Most of this was done by portable mills set up on or near the lots being cleared and moved as required. Among those who had such mills in this period were George A. Pierce, Charles W. Adams, Colburn Bros., Warren Newton of Athol, Mass. and Hagar Bros. of Greenfield, Mass. Oliver J. Butterfield had a mill near Westminster Depot, and there was the mill at the pond north of the village.

Today many of the farmers develop their woodlots with careful planting, pruning and thinning and harvest their timber by selective cuttings. The town has properties of forest land, one connected with the Hooper School and another being the east part of the Fanny Mason estate which she left for a town forest.

According to *Fogg's Gazeteer* for 1875 Walpole ranked third in the state in value of agricultural produce, total \$254,095 (for year 1872). Following are the items as tabulated: Acres of improved land 19,433; Number of horses 408; Number of cattle 1,278; Number of sheep 9,219; Number of swine 441; Estimated value of all livestock \$141,615; Bushels of wheat 1,001; of rye 514; of corn 38,660 (13,000 more than any other town); Bushels of barley 33,373; Pounds of wool 39,103; Bushels of peas and beans 61; of potatoes 15,355; Value of orchard products \$7,610; Pounds of butter 50,000; Pounds of cheese 4,670; Gallons of milk sold 145; Tons of hay 6,657; Bushels of seed (Hay) 39; Pounds of maple sugar 10,500; no honey or hops; Value of animals slaughtered or sold to be slaughtered \$254,095; Pounds of Tobacco 95,850.

We offer these figures only as a matter of interest. Gazeteers are not noted for their accuracy. More reliable figures, although not covering the same items, are to be had from the town inventories which may present an understatement. In 1797 a law was passed requiring the selectmen to "take inventory of the following articles which each person shall be possessed of April next/viz., orchard, arable, mowing and pasture land, accounting so much orchard as will in a common season produce 10 barrels of Cyder or Perry, 1 acre—so much pasture land as will summer a Cow—4 acres—what mowing land will commonly produce 25 bu. corn yearly, 1 acre, in which is to be considered all land planted with Indian Corn, Potatoes, and Beans and sown with grain flax or peas. . . ."



## GRAIN

In 1814 Josiah Bellows 2nd and David Stone bought the Atkinson farm (Boggy Meadow) on speculation, Josiah Bellows 3rd joining them in 1816. They employed Thomas Cunningham who lived next north "and others to cut off the timber, which found a ready market in Hartford, and sowed a large part of the land to winter rye in the fall of 1815 which was probably the largest field of grain ever seen in town, and the sowing that year proved a fortunate circumstance, as the next year, 1816, was the coldest season ever experienced in this vicinity, and, in consequence, the corn crop was a perfect failure. 1816 is well remembered by the old citizens as the cold season or 'poverty year'. The mean mercurial temperature was about 43. Snow fell in June, and August was the only month exempt from frosts. The early frosts of September cut off the unripe corn, which some persons vainly tried to save by early husking and spreading. There was a heavy crop of English grain, otherwise the inhabitants would have suffered a partial famine." (AH 95)

In 1798 an advertisement in the *Museum* listed the following grains as those taken in trade: wheat, rye, Indian corn, oats. In 1870 there was the following report: no fibre, little rye, no hops, little barley or buckwheat, very little wheat; potatoes usually fraction of an acre; chief grains oats and corn.

The production of most grain fell off, but corn increased. March 13, 1883, the following discussion took place at the Walpole Farmers' Club on *What We Know About Silos*.

E. K. Seabury: "Two years ago, after studying the subject pretty thoroughly and visiting a number of farmers who had silos in successful operation, I built my silo. The first year I put in 30 tons of corn. People laughed at me and predicted that I should have to cart the stuff out as manure; but their expectations were not realized. I fed all the ensilage to my stock with very satisfactory results. . . . I intend to build another the coming season. . . . I think good silos can be built by any of our farmers at small expense, and I should like to see them all try the system for themselves."

O. J. Hubbard: "I built a wooden silo last summer and filled it with corn. My ensilage corn, owing to the drought, was light, not much more than half a crop. It was cut up in September and trod into the silo with a horse, and a heavy pressure applied. The ensilage came out in better condition than I expected. I commenced feeding it to 20 cattle and 160 sheep twice a day. The sheep gained very fast. The cattle did as well as others that had no ensilage, perhaps a little better."

John L. Hubbard: "I have had the ensilage fever, but I am now convalescent. I am apt to be enthusiastic about new things, and sometimes get bit by investing in them, but I haven't built a silo yet." (He proceeded to prove his points with figures, opposing the practicability of ensilage. O. J. Hubbard pointed out his errors in calculations and



the fallacy in his conclusions. Seabury quoted authorities on the subject, John P. Holmes cited his experiences.)

O. J. Hubbard: "I fed 10 two-year-old steers on ensilage, and they did as well as any cattle I ever fed. They became fat early in the season, and sold for a good price. I got the full market price for the grain I gave them, and \$15 a ton for the ensilage."

John P. Holmes: "The question might be raised whether the \$15 should be credited wholly to the ensilage, or in part to Mr. Hubbard's sharpness in buying and selling."

Hubbard: "All I can say about that is that I paid for the steers all I was asked, and I sold them to two of the hardest fellows to deal with that I know of."

That first silo of Seabury's was built inside his barn, now Albert Fletcher's. By 1895 silos were fairly common. The self-binding harvester was a boon. Even 30 years ago the corn was cut that way, dropped in bundles on the ground, picked up by hand and loaded onto wagons, chopped at the barn and conveyed into the silo. Today the corn is chopped in the row and blown into a truck, then taken to the barn and transferred to the silo.

In 1892 Baxter built a cannery at Westminster and many farmers raised sweet corn for that outlet, feeding the fodder to their cattle. Succotash, tomatoes, squash and apples were also put up at the cannery. The cannery was damaged by fire in September 1931.

#### SHEEP

In 1869 there were 12,532 sheep in town; in 1895 there were 2,759. Aldrich states that the French Merino were coming into town, but in larger flocks the breed seemed to be of no particular consequence. Some of the smaller flocks were listed as "full-blooded Spanish Merino." In 1885 the following were listed: William Arnold, 150 Spanish Merino; Harrison G. Barnes, 375 Spanish Merino; Oliver J. Hubbard and King Bros., Spanish Merino; Charles Parkinson, 400 no breed; S. Johnson Tiffany, 200 Spanish Merino; Charles E. Watkins, Spanish Merino; George Watkins, pure Spanish Merino; Henry J. Watkins, 450 no breed.

During this period the sheep were kept primarily for their wool. In May 1886 33,000 lbs. of wool were gathered from the country-side, brought to the town hall and sold to Faulkner & Colony of Keene for 20-29¢ per pound. In October that same year D. B. Emerson bought over 70,000 lbs., others 35,000; 20,000 lbs. not sold. About half of this had been produced in 1886. Lyme was the only town in the state producing more wool than Walpole.

When Cleveland became president in 1893, the tariff was removed from wool. The imports increased from 55,000,000 lb. in 1894 to 203,000,000 lb. in 1895 and the price dropped from 30¢ to 15¢. By 1897 the sheep



business had shifted so that some farmers were buying lambs to fatten, but did not themselves keep any great number of sheep. In October 1897 John P. Holmes drove 325 lambs home from Windham, Vt. The previous January he had sold 600 at a good profit. The lambs were shipped at 100 lb.

By 1899 the wool price was more or less stabilized at 19-20¢. Through the years dogs became an increasing menace. In 1961 there were 120 sheep and goats in the whole town.

Sheep were always "ornery critters," difficult to control. They were a nuisance in the meeting house yard. It took a good fence to hold them in or out. Mrs. Barnes relates how Joseph Bellows wished to move some of his valuable sheep from one pasture to another two or three miles distant. He sent for Thomas Bellows to make the transfer. He was successful in driving the sheep a part of the way, when all at once they scattered in every direction. On going closer, he found Sam Gilchrist lying in the middle of the road, dead drunk. Knowing that he could never get the sheep past him, Thomas attempted to arouse him, to get him out of the way, but to no avail. Finally in angry desperation he took a pole from a nearby fence and beat him to his senses. To his chagrin, Sam told and retold his account of the occurrence until Bellows finally bought him off with the gift of a pair of shoes.

#### CATTLE

In 1840 most farmers had from three to ten cows. Josiah Bellows had fifteen, William Buffum fourteen, Luther Proctor twelve. There were 100 families owning one cow, 69 owning two cows.

As early as 1857 Joseph Wells brought cattle from Canada to Walpole but not until the 1870's were a great many cows brought into town from the north, a business which increased through the years. In 1887 Henry Slade was bringing cattle from northern Vermont and selling them locally for \$20 to \$30 apiece. Davidson of Craftsbury was driving cattle through town—in November 1887 at least six droves in a few weeks. He drove them to the Fletcher farm in the south part of town where he kept them for a few days before proceeding southward. Often they went through on Saturday night and pastured at Fletcher's over Sunday. There are said to have been 1,200 to 1,300 animals at a time, but most droves were a few hundred. By 1898 George A. Chickering was in business as a drover, also Arthur Chickering.

The early cows in Walpole were described in the records (when they broke into someone's enclosure) as red, or black, or brindle, etc., although



there is reference in 1845 to a Devon. By 1885 Edwin Guild, Frederick H. Holland and Esdras Smith listed their herds as Jersey; Kingsbury Brothers, Durham; and E. K. Seabury as Holstein. In 1897 Rufus Leonard's four Jerseys produced 1,426 lb., 5 oz. butter, which sold at 25-26¢ per pound. In 1889 John Hayward had Jerseys, selling cream at 25¢ per quart. One Sunday his bull got into Judge Bellows' pasture, causing such a commotion among the cows that there was a forced intermission in religious worship.

In the early days butter and cheese were made on the farm. What could be spared was traded at the store for goods. In 1798 Moses Johnson advertised: "Good, hard sweet butter will be received at 10 pence per lb. Those who prefer cash to goods shall receive 9 pence per lb. for their butter. N.B. No butter will be received but the best kind, the milk well worked out, and the butter perfectly sweet, hard and in neat order."

Butter directions *Museum* July 24, 1798: "The cream to be churned before it is old, the butter well worked and properly salted, then to be set in a cool, clean cellar, put into a vessel wet with cold water, a large cloth several times folded, and wet with cold water, laid over it; the next day taken up and well worked again, the milk washed out with cold water, and after sufficiently worked, put into the cellar again as before; if to be sent several miles distance, the box which contains the butter (if warm weather) should be wrapped up in a large cloth wet directly from the well to prevent the heat from the horse melting it. If timely and properly attended to in this manner, Butter may be transported upon a horse ten miles in the warmest morning in August, perfectly hard and in good order. For the encouragement of the above applications to this valuable article, the generous price of ten pence per pound will be paid in Goods at low prices, or if more agreeable, one third goods and two-thirds cash. . . ."

In 1884 there was talk of establishing a creamery in Walpole, but nothing seemed to come of such an undertaking until Walpole farmers put up a share of the capital for a creamery which was opened in Westminster September 10, 1888 (Vermont Valley Creamery). In 1889 butter was selling for 28¢ a pound.

By 1894 farmers were shipping milk to Boston. In July 1895 sixteen farmers shipped a daily average of 235 cans from Walpole station, while 26 farmers shipped from Hall's Crossing where they had erected a station along the east side of the railroad south of the highway. They received 22¢ per 8½ quart can, with the demand greater than the supply. However, by 1897 there had begun to be problems arising from surplus milk. Many of the Walpole farmers had joined the Milk Producers' Union at Bellows Falls, Ira Ramsay being Vice President and John Holmes, Secretary. Holmes and Willie G. Leonard attended a meeting in Boston at which the surplus milk problem was discussed. The conclusions were:



Surplus should not exceed 1¢ per can, milk should be furnished only by the Union, consumption should be stimulated and extended, and quality kept up to standard.

Locally Everett L. Houghton was the first to deliver milk (1895). In September he was peddling milk to 43 families twice a day, average 57½ qts. per day at 5¢ per quart, from ten Jerseys. In 1897 he bought a regulation milk cart and bought out N. W. Holland's route to add to his own. In the spring 1911 Ira Hubbard bought Charles H. Barnes' route, then sold it in the fall to C. E. Seward.

In January 1898 there were 10,429 cans of milk that went to the Boston Dairy Company, 1,095 direct to customers in Boston, mostly from Amory and Williams. Fred Booth, Cyrus Church, W. G. Leonard, J. L. Houghton and others withdrew from the Boston Dairies, separated and sold cream to the Valley Creamery at Westminster. Houghton used sheep power to turn his separator. From Walpole station the last week of December 1897 3,265 lbs. of butter were shipped.

Amory and Bridge were first who tested for tuberculosis in cattle in 1894. That year the farmers met, sent George P. Williams to Concord as delegate to see if cows slaughtered for T.B. should not be paid for at assessed valuation. Cattle had to be tested for T.B. before being shipped into Massachusetts. Reactors were slaughtered.

In 1920 the Bellows Falls Cooperative Creamery was organized, although not a marketing agency until 1921 when an agreement was made with the First National Stores. There were 120 members in the beginning, up to a maximum of 1,300; in 1951 about 900. The first shipment was made November 1921. In 1921 the daily average per producer was 125 lb.; in 1935, 168 lb.; in 1950, 265 lb.; in April 1962, 704 lbs.

Through the years some producers have delivered their own milk to the plant, but more have had theirs picked up by Brookside trucks. At the present time the shift is being made to bulk tank trucks, doing away with the old 40 qt. cans which ruined many a strong back. The milk is processed at the Bellows Falls plant, ready for delivery in the metropolitan markets. What is sold in bottles is bottled at Bellows Falls. Louis Ballam of Walpole is president of the Cooperative. In April 1962 there were 581 active patrons.

In 1961 there were in Walpole 1,311 cows, 101 neat stock and oxen.

#### BEEF

As noted before the value of animals slaughtered or sold for slaughter in 1875 was \$254,095, most of which was probably beef. In the early days



butchering was done on the farm and each family had its pork barrel and its corned beef. Even the state tax was expressed as "beef money."

As early as 1798 there is a record of beef cattle going to Boston. Later there were yards at the Walpole and Cold River railroad stations. During a four-week period in the summer of 1895 the following were shipped to Boston from these yards: 615 calves, 117 sheep, 251 cows, 20 beef animals. Monday was shipping day. Before 1900 it was considered worthy of news comment which markets in town sold native beef and which western.

## HORSES

Horses were listed in the early inventories and with oxen were the farm draft animals. Teaming was an important occupation for many farmers, particularly out-of-season. Before the days of the railroad there was teaming to and from Boston (See Decade to 1830). Among the drivers were Elisha and Ebenezer Crain who had two teams, driving between Walpole and Boston about 1839. Walpole was also an important staging center. In 1840 we find the following owners of large numbers of horses: John B. Sparhawk, 9; William F. Greenwood, 7; Pelatiah Armstrong, 6; William Buffum, 8; Otis Bardwell, 13 (stage); Reuben Brown, 6; Thomas Drew, 8; Lovell Farr, 8; John Graves, 6; William P. Mason, 8. William Buffum also owned 8 oxen; most people had 2 horses.

As early as 1835 Frederick A. Wier introduced the Morgan horse into Walpole, a universal favorite with stage drivers, physicians and all who depended on driving horses. Cock of the Rock was an early Morgan stud belonging to Wier and Charles C. Chaffin.

In May 1873 L. B. Holland bought a portion of the Hibbard farm on the River Road near the railroad crossing and laid out a track, the only mile track in the state. In September about 50 of Mr. Holland's friends and neighbors gathered for a bee at the track, bringing with them a score of 2-horse and ox carts. They worked bravely toward completion of the track, but were interrupted by a storm. Their efforts were rewarded with a clam bake, the first in this part of the country, a barrel of clams being consumed.

In 1874 there were races and special events such as are common at fairs. Albert Short caught the greased pig. Auctions of horses were also held at the track. In 1875 the track was leased to Solon S. King for the season, but was not very successful. Leach later owned the track.

Late in the winter of 1877 the river furnished a splendid trotting course, safe from the Village Bridge to Cold River, with as many as 50



teams there at a time. William March's pacer seemed to be the fastest in the races.

In 1897 we find the following list of horses and horsemen in Walpole who normally gathered at the hotel:

David W. Leach—'Jos Wilkes'  
George E. Sherman—'Reno McGregor'  
F. L. Chickering—'Kitty Wilkes'  
D. W. Smith—'King Tantalus'  
F. J. Perry—'Pair of Lamberts'  
H. F. (Hen) Chandler—'Truth'

Charles W. Adams  
W. W. Porter  
Fred Prentiss  
Frank Sibley  
George Sparhawk  
F. A. Lebourveau

#### LIVERIES

In the 1850 census we find hostlers listed in connection with the hotel in the village, probably for the care of the horses of guests, rather than having horses for hire, although Henry Allen is said to have opened a livery about this time. The hotel owners are not listed in the early town inventories as owning any great number of horses. In 1849 Calvin J. Holden is listed as having a livery business: 4 horses, 4 buggies, 1 Rockaway wagon, 1 two-horse covered carriage, 1 four-horse coach, 12 harnesses, 6 sleighs, 11 Buffalo robes. He was running the Walpole House at that time.

Also listed, but without date, is Charles F. Colston: livery business and running to the depot. There was certainly a stable connected with the hotel when Holbrook sold the property to Silas M. Bates in 1858; 1865 to Horace A. Perry. He leased to others. In 1870 William Maynard owned the livery, if not the building, with 14 horses valued at \$2000. The property burned 1880 and Maynard set up business in George Jennison's barn, then soon sold to Warren H. Jennison. At this time Henry P. Allen started a livery in his father's barn, corner Turnpike and Main Streets, where Otis Bardwell had operated stables and stage lines in earlier days.

In 1883 Perry built a new livery barn and blacksmith shop west of the hotel—12 open stalls, 2 box stalls, office and harness room. In 1889 Perry sold to Fred Lebourveau; 1893 to John White Hayward Jr.; in 1896 Lebourveau became manager. His business is thus described in the Souvenir Edition of *Bellows Falls Times* 1899: "One of the first and most essential requirements of the summer tourist or the commercial traveller is for the services of a liveryman who is reliable, courteous, intelligent, and thoroughly informed regarding the roads, the scenery, and the personnel of the town.

"Mr. F. A. Lebourveau possesses all of these requirements, and is also



an accomplished horseman and an agreeable companion. He is widely known to the public as a successful liveryman and horse buyer and trainer, and he has been a factor in attracting summer company to Walpole.

"Fred began buying horses at the age of sixteen, experimented in the butcher and meat business with a partner, learned to shoe horses and iron wagons, and finally decided that his sphere of usefulness, as well as his tastes, were in the line of horsemanship.

"Some fifteen years ago, soon after the old hotel and livery were burned, he erected his livery stable near the Dinsmore House, and soon had the choicest livery stock in this section. For a pair of stylish creams with white tails, he was offered \$800, but kept them six years as a traveling card for the stable, and then sold them for \$600. Mr. Lebourveau has probably mated, trained and sold more high priced Gentlemen's drivers, single and in spans, than any other man of his age in Cheshire County (40), the prices ranging from \$300 to \$2,000."

In April 1899 Russell Graves bought the Lebourveau Livery Stable, retaining as foreman George F. Chandler who had been with the business for eight years and was familiar with the country and a great favorite with commercial men. The stable had twelve horses with outfits to match and a three-seater Surrey enjoyed by many a lively party on outings. The Graves business was continued as long as there was any demand for horse drawn rigs.

In 1909 Albert Brigham established a livery stable on High Street, also at his farm on the Bellows Falls Road, kept a stallion and raised colts. He took William G. Stowell as a partner, died suddenly, after which Stowell took Edgar J. Wells as partner. Soon they dissolved, Wells continued the business with six horses, running an express delivery, a school bus route, and later an auto livery. All his profits were consumed when he went into politics. At one time, either before 1909 or after 1914, Archie Hathaway had a livery here.

Around 1908 John E. Proctor and wife Emma Radford Proctor kept a livery of five horses on Pleasant Street. Mrs. Proctor worked caring for the horses, harnesses and wagons; Mr. Proctor was cemetery sexton and used his horses on the hearse. He also drove his horses for hire.

At North Walpole Taylor had a livery stable in 1900.

#### RUNAWAYS AND OTHER ACCIDENTS

In this mechanical era we are apt to think of locomotion in the 18th and 19th centuries as comparatively slow and without danger. To dispel



such an idea we here list a few of the many accidents reported in the press.

In July 1890 there was a week of accidents of one kind and another. While the Mazeppa Fire Company was testing the fire engine, Edward Holland got his feet tangled in the rope used for drawing the engine, was run over and seriously injured. The same day Ellis was hurt leading a cow. On Monday Dannie Brown was thrown from his mowing machine, his foot hurt in the machine. That same day James Sullivan hitched his horse into a buggy with a broken thill. The horse became furious and crowded Sullivan against the piazza post, seriously jamming his chest. He also dislocated the post which was more easily repaired than Sullivan's bones.

In July 1895 Frank Sibley's horse was frightened at the crossing in Westminster, threw out the two occupants of the buggy and ran through the bridge to Walpole Street where the buggy collided with a post. About a week later the ice delivery team in the village ran away.

In November 1897 J. P. Holmes harnessed his colt to go up to the street and left him standing at the door while he went inside to get his coat. When he came out, the rig was gone. Two days later the colt was found dead on a crossroad near Westmoreland Depot, the carriage nearby. It appeared that he had run into a tree.

In March 1898 a large gray horse of R. G. Graves caused considerable excitement in the village when he ran, with heavy forward cart wheels, from Prentiss' blacksmith shop into the Square and round Elm and Turnpike Streets. He cleared himself neatly, but was caught on Westminster Street.

In June 1898 the two horses hitched to the Standard Oil wagon, driven by W. H. Kiniry of North Walpole, were standing by the hitching posts in the Square, bridles off, eating their supper. One suddenly began to kick; they started, ran into the team of W. G. Leonard, then crashed into the end of the C. C. Davis Block, and were finally stopped by the crowd.

#### POULTRY: HISTORY OF HUBBARD FARMS

In 1791 Levi Hubbard came to Walpole from Holden, Mass., and purchased the original Hubbard farm (#460) from John Kilburn. On this land he built the colonial home that stands today. The farm has been in the continued ownership of the Hubbard family since that time and is now occupied by Levi's great-grandson, Ira S. Hubbard.

On this farm in 1914 Oliver J. Hubbard, son of Ira, started the poultry operation which has developed into the present commercial Hubbard



Farms business. By 1921 approximately 1,000 laying birds were housed which was then considered to be a large poultry enterprise. In that year chicks were hatched and shipped to purchasers by Parcel Post. This was a pioneer venture as the mails had only recently permitted the Parcel Post shipment of day-old chickens. The hatchery business as it is known today was only starting and the Hubbards were among the first to use the mails for delivery of chicks. This method of distribution was instrumental in the development of Hubbard Farms since it made possible a wide geographical distribution and market for their product.

During the 1920 decade a new breed of chickens was being developed in New Hampshire that later gained country and world-wide popularity. This became known as the New Hampshire breed. Hubbard Farms had a major part in originating this breed, and in the development and promotion of it. They also became the largest breeders and distributors of New Hampshires in the United States.

In July 1931 the business was incorporated as Hubbard Farms, Inc. By that time the yearly production and sale of chicks had grown to over 1,000,000. Sales areas were growing and a demand had been created for the Hubbard Farms product in some of the larger eastern states such as New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. To better serve this area, in 1933 a branch hatchery was established in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The rapid growth of the poultry industry in the South in recent years made it desirable to establish a plant to serve that area. In 1957 a hatchery was built in Statesville, North Carolina. In 1959 another hatchery was opened in Grove City, Pennsylvania.

For many years Hubbard Farms has shipped foundation breeding lines of day-old chicks by air to many foreign countries. This demand has increased as other areas of the world have copied the commercial mass production methods that the poultry industry has developed in the United States. The growth of these foreign markets made necessary a European Hubbard Farms Hatchery. In 1962 a Hubbard Farms Belgian Corporation was formed for the purpose of distributing breeding stock to the European Common Market. This is jointly owned with citizens of that country. A poultry farm and hatchery has been constructed at Oudenaarde, Belgium, where Hubbard Farms breeding stock is carried and foundation breeding stock chicks are hatched to be distributed to the poultry farms of Europe.

The business has been family owned and operated. As other sons of Ira S. Hubbard finished college they found opportunities in the growing operation. Austin I. Hubbard joined the organization in 1925, Leslie S.



Hubbard in 1926 and Donald E. Hubbard in 1938. At the present time third generation family members are in active management positions, consisting of John A. Hubbard, son of Austin; O. Wentworth Hubbard, son of Oliver; and William I. Phipps, son of Mildred Hubbard Phipps.

In Walpole, the headquarters of the company, Hubbard Farms operates one of the largest and most detailed genetic poultry breeding research operations in the United States. This is designed to improve present commercial strains of poultry as well as to originate and develop new and better ones. Foundation breeding stock goes out from the Walpole Research Farm to stock the multiplication farms of Hubbard Farms in Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Belgium. It takes over 300,000 breeding birds to produce the hatching eggs to keep these plants operating. In turn, the progeny of this stock goes directly by air-conditioned trucks to hatchery and poultrymen as breeding parent lines and as commercial chicks for meat and egg production. Present incubating capacity at all Hubbard Farms plants is over 2½ million eggs at one setting. At full production this means 700,000 chicks a week are hatched.

In Walpole the number of full-time employees is 70. A considerable number of hatching eggs are produced by local poultrymen and purchased by the Hubbard hatcheries. Thus, the business has been helpful in the economic life of the community.

It might be interesting to observe that between 1914 and the time of this writing, 1962, or within the working lifetime of one generation, vast changes have occurred in all agricultural production. However, none has been more rapid or dramatic than the technological and productive advance of the poultry industry. Before 1914 poultry raising had advanced little if any from the knowledge and methods used by the ancient civilizations of China and Egypt. The history of the Hubbard Farms poultry business therefore coincides with the period of years when immense sources of information were being discovered in genetics, nutrition, disease control and labor saving devices, all making possible massive production of poultry meat and eggs at a fraction of the cost that prevailed fifty years ago. Hubbard Farms has been a factor in this development and growth of the poultry industry in the United States as well as in other countries. And through its genetic breeding program it has been influential in developing strains vastly improved in meat and egg production quality.

The present officers of Hubbard Farms, Inc., are: O. Wentworth Hubbard, President; Austin I. Hubbard, Vice President; Leslie S. Hubbard, Vice President; Donald E. Hubbard, Treasurer; Oliver J. Hubbard,



Chairman of the Board. Directors of the Corporation are: O. Wentworth Hubbard, Austin I. Hubbard, Leslie S. Hubbard, Donald E. Hubbard, Oliver J. Hubbard, John A. Hubbard, Ira S. Hubbard, William I. Phipps, Leslie A. Neal.

#### APPLES

In the early years all farms of any consequence had their orchards, and in the early town inventories we find the number of acres of orchard owned by each taxpayer. When a farm was advertised for sale the orchard acreage was noted. According to Aldrich, Nathan Watkins brought with him on horseback from Connecticut the apple trees which were still standing in 1875 on the Kingsbury farm a little south of the homestead. Col. John Bellows is said to have had the largest orchard in town, 30 acres.

These apples were no doubt "common" fruit, although there may have been named varieties. In 1831 William Hooper had a tree which yielded 80 bushels of apples. It was known to the family as "Pride of the Frying Pan" and at that time was supposed to be 80 years old. In 1851 he set grafted trees, so that by 1874 he was said to have the finest apples in town. That year he produced 200 bbl. Baldwins, 80 bbl. R. I. Greenings, 10 bbl. Fall apples and enough for 30 bbl. cider. Charles Hooper, next door, that year had 300 bbl.

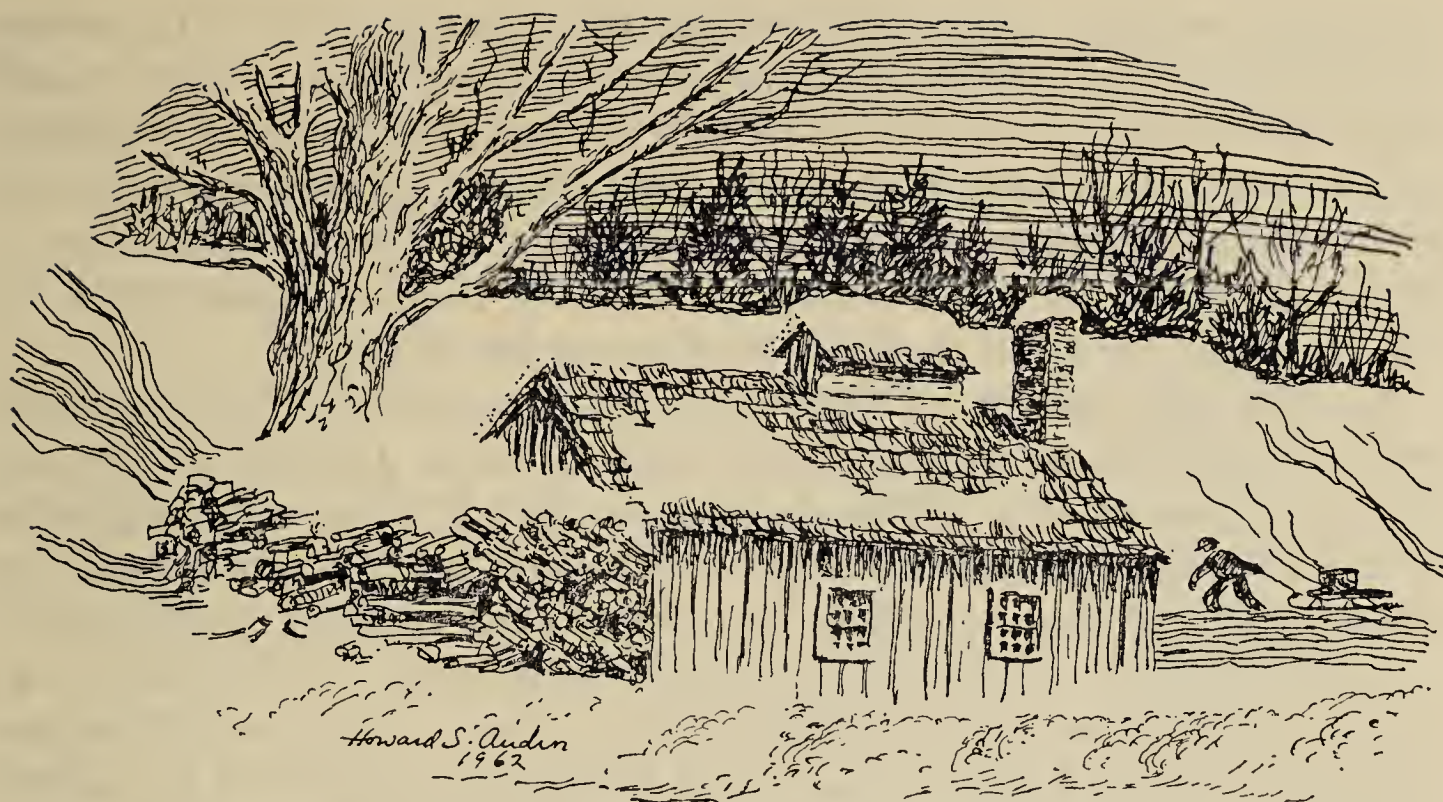
According to Fogg's *Gazetteer* (1875) the annual value of orchard products in Walpole was \$7,610.

In 1882 there were 2,010 bbl. apples shipped by rail from Walpole Depot, 1,000 bbl. from Cold River Depot. Dana Hooper grossed \$790 and with his father William from two orchards grossed \$1500. In 1885 several carloads of apples were shipped to England, men coming from Boston to do the packing. In 1897 there were 1000 bbl. shipped to Liverpool. In 1885, according to statistics, Levi Burt was a dealer in small trees and had 960 trees on his place (#271); William Hooper 500 trees, Mrs. Lyman Houghton 130 trees, William Jennings 150 trees, S. Johnson Tiffany 75 trees.

In 1892 close to 5,000 bbl. were shipped, mostly to the west—3,745 bbl. to Buffalo to be canned, others to St. Paul, Chicago, Peoria and Farmington, Ill. The price was \$1.50 for the best quality. In 1899 there was an excellent crop, 4,373 bbl., average price \$1.75—D. A. Mann 250 bbl., Alfred and Fred H. Watkins 200 bbl., and of course the Hoopers.

While Copley Amory owned the old Col. Bellows homestead, he set an orchard on the hillside east of the highway, purchased in 1925 by





*Old Sugar House, Watkins Hill*

Charles E. Hewitt Jr. The Hubbards also had an orchard in recent years near the family homestead and the Hooper School has had orchards in connection with agricultural education. However, the battle with unfavorable weather conditions, pests and diseases consumes any profit which might accrue to the owners, and most of the orchards have either disintegrated from neglect or been destroyed.

The big demand for apples in Walpole was for cider. Every tenth man had his cider mill. Every well-to-do farmer put into his cellar yearly from 20 to 50 bbl. of cider which was drunk on the premises. Col. Benjamin Bellows is said to have put down 400 bbl. annually. In 1795 (or 1805, there is a discrepancy between sources) there were 4800 bbl. of cider made and every drop was drunk in town.

Neighbors who occasionally called on each other were always regaled with a mug of cider, and the boys and housemaids were pressed into the service of tending the spigot. *AH* 95: "Cider mills were located in different parts of town and their groans in autumn, in crushing apples, could be heard half a mile distant, while the boys who scraped the nuts in cold weather, cursed the day when the making of cider was discovered."

Cider presses are known to have been located at the Harding Ball place (#351) on Rapids, north of Diana Wiers (#242) on the River Road, on Wentworth Road south of the Blackwell homestead (not sure, but probably west of highway near #303). The Hoopers had a cider mill on the west side of the highway near the Lewis homestead (#284). In



1874 they built new (infer they had one there before), 10 x 20 ft. on the side hill. The apples were deposited in cars holding 80 bu. in the second story, then run over the hopper and passed down into the grater (cost \$65) in the basement. There was also the \$200 Brower & Boshert cider press with 150 tons pressure which would squeeze 4 gallons of cider from a bushel of apples. We also note that in 1874 the Hoopers raised 20 bu. of rye, no doubt using the rye straw for filtering the cider.

In 1880 John Selkirk set up a press at his sawmill at the mill pond north of the village, making 1100 barrels of cider. In 1882 he ground 10,600 bushels, made 1,163 barrels cider; in 1885 2,700 barrels. Originally he had used water power. In 1884 we note that he had plenty of apples, but not enough water to press them. In 1899 he came to using steam power.

According to the 1823 *Gazetteer* 1,225 barrels cider were produced annually at that time. Families, when out of cider, considered themselves out of everything. Cider sold for 50¢ a barrel to be converted into cider brandy at the old distillery which once stood 50 rods south of the Lucius Slade place on the River Road. The distillers paid for their cider in cider brandy at 33¢ per gallon. Cider brandy was cheap and nearly every family had a supply of it, and it was thought by some to be the great panacea for all ills and ails of life, and consequently a great deal was used as a common beverage, accounting for the unusual number of red faces and brandy noses seen during that era (1820's, see *AH* 95-6).

There was also a distillery near the site of the Academy, owned by Caleb Bellows. This may have had some connection with his plan to distill a beverage from potatoes.

In 1885 John Selkirk distilled 584 gallons of cider brandy on which he paid a tax of \$525. There is no public note of any distilling in more recent years.

#### OTHER FRUITS

In 1881 H. G. Barnes had 23 peach trees which produced 56 bushels; in 1891 he produced 200 bushels. Peaches at best are a gamble in this climate. There are other fruit trees—pears, plums—but in no great quantity.

Strawberries have been raised at times in considerable quantity by Joslin (#520) and Thompson (#548).

#### TOBACCO

In the late 1860's many of the farmers in town thought they could make their fortunes raising tobacco. Fields originally given over to raising grain were heavily fertilized and tobacco set out. Great sums were ex-



pended to obtain extra supplies of manure, brought by rail as much as 50 miles. New barns were built for the curing of the weed. In 1870 there was the following production:

Benjamin E. Webster	1 acre	2000 lb.
John E. Heald	1 acre	1013 lb.
Alvin Dwinell	1.5 acre	2860 lb.
Orrin E. Ramsay	.25 acre	100 lb.
Peter Reynolds	.5 acre	700 lb.
Charles Hooper	11 acre	20000 lb.
Charles H. Brown	1 acre	1300 lb.
John C. Brown	3.5 acre	6250 lb.
Justin Farr	1.5 acre	3500 lb.
George B. Holland	.5 acre	600 lb.
George Weymouth	10 acre	18000 lb.
Total	31.75 acre	56323 lb.

Wind, hail, drought, pests tried the growers and prices were not adequate to make up for the whims of the weather. In 1875 the total crop in town was 26,000 lb. (*Gazetteer*). By 1903 there were only four growers—George H. Angier, 2 acres; Charles E. Angier, 8 acres; John L. Houghton, 1 acre; and Dennis Griffin, 3 acres. In 1910 there were 12,485 lb. raised on Boggy Meadow Farm. That is just about the whole story of tobacco in Walpole. According to Aldrich as high as 100 tons were raised at one time, but we haven't found any firm figures that high. The price went down to 10¢.

FIBRES

In the early days there were numerous carding and cloth mills, some rather hard to locate now because the financial situation was such that they didn't last.

Around 1800 (according to Mrs. Barnes page 105, writing of Col. John Bellows' household). "It will be remembered it was decreed that nothing should be used in the colonies but what could be grown and manufactured by our people; and in almost every household, whether rich or poor, might be found the spinning wheel and quill-wheel and loom, and all the apparatus necessary for making cloth, both cotton and linen; and every man, woman and child was clad throughout in what was called, at that time, homespun. Ambition was stimulated, and there was great competition, especially in the linen fabrics; as these were used for all kinds of purposes—undergarments, dresses, aprons, pocket handkerchiefs and neckerchiefs. Whatever could not be made by themselves from flax and sheep's wool, people learned to do without. . . .



“The finest wool and beautiful flax were raised upon this great estate, and in sufficient quantity to make cloth for an army, if need had been; and it was not only the quantity, but the quality, that was more remarkable. It was said that some of her white linen would equal in fineness of texture the imported Holland that was used in those days for gentlemen’s shirts, not used in the bosoms alone, as at this day (1888), but for the whole garment, long, large and wide, as I can bear testimony; for how can I forget the long stretches of hemming, every stitch taken with my then little fingers, and the long side seams sewed over and over, and then felled down. But more especially do I remember the stitching of wristbands and collars. A thread was drawn, and two threads were taken at each stitch.

“The linen fabric that was made for dresses was famed for its beauty. It was blue and white narrow stripe, colored in the yarn, and its texture was as delicate as the imported muslin. The fine checked linen made for aprons was beautiful. . . .”

Mrs. Bellows’ success in the manufacture of cloth “had become widely known, probably reported by the many people who came from towns quite a long distance off to get spinning to do of both wool and flax. (*History of Cheshire & Sullivan Co.* P. 432)—“Col. John Bellows furnished employment for a large number of females, by furnishing them with wool to spin into yarn. Their visits on horseback to return yarn and procure more wool were frequent and constant, and, with their horses tied around his house, made it resemble a public inn on some festive occasion. As the only way of travelling was on horseback, they often made a most ludicrous appearance when bringing home the product of several weeks’ labor. The piles of yarn would be tied upon the horse behind them and before them, often wholly concealing the rider, especially when seen approaching from a distance; and a lively imagination could easily convert this moving mass into some huge animal belonging to some unknown species. There was one woman in particular that belonged to Aunt Colonel’s troop of spinners, and who lived nearly twenty miles away. She was always spoken of as ‘old Mother Barnard.’ No disrespect was really intended. It only seemed the most fitting way to specify her quaint individuality. She was especially noted for the huge piles of yarn she would bring on the smallest specimen of a horse. Old Dinah would sometimes say, unless one had a near view, it would be hard to tell which was the yarn or which was the horse. The woman herself was physically very diminutive; but those who belonged to that household soon learned that that was not the way to measure her, particularly the



colonel's boys, Josiah and Roswell, who had first considered her only a target for their sharp shooting. They quickly found that their arrows would quickly recoil upon themselves, often giving them much the worst of the game; for they had nothing to match the keen wits of this woman. . . .

"This Mother Barnard made herself invaluable to Aunt Colonel, for, while she could spin such quantities of yarn, nearly as fine as a spider's web, Aunt Colonel could make such cloth as no one else attempted to imitate; and this branch of industry was carried on on such a large scale, wholly superintended by Aunt Colonel, that it required a large number of operatives. There was a Scotch woman employed for more than twenty years: she did no other work but weave. There was a large basement room in the house fitted up for this special purpose, and here Mrs. Sally Lathwood reigned a queen at the great loom; and war to any invader of this precinct."

In a more plebian strain the *Cheshire & Sullivan County History* P. 432 states "The good old housewife and her daughters, with 'rosy cheeks and bonny brows', spun the wool and flax, the former colored and woven into cloth for the entire outward garments of both sexes in the families, and the latter into bed linen and undergarments."

In 1820 there were 5500 lbs. of flax raised in Walpole; in 1860 George Bundy and Samuel Dickey were the only raisers reported. It would appear that flax had been raised locally since early days of the settlement, for it is recorded (*Town Papers of N. H., Hammond Vol. VIII P. 597*) that in 1773 John Marcy and Ebenezer Swan intended to make linseed oil.

In 1879 Mrs. Rebecca Graves (82) spun in one day 20 knots of yarn in addition to her housework for four.

#### SILK WORMS IN WALPOLE

Between 1835 and 1845 there was a wave of excitement over the idea that fortunes could be made raising silk. The first step was to set out mulberry trees. The two varieties known to have been set in Walpole were Multicaulus and Alpine. Records show that Hiram Redding bought 200 trees, Lorenzo Pressey 600, Lyman Stearns 350, George W. Bellows of Drewsville 1400, Henry Cram 6500. Henry Mellish had 8 rows in his cornfield. There is no record of how many other trees were set, or of the results. Occasionally a mulberry tree is, now in 1962, found growing beside the road.

The Bellows daughters are said to have knit their own silk hose.



## NURSERY AND FLORIST BUSINESS

There have been various small nursery and florist businesses in Walpole through the years. In the 1880's Henry C. Rawson was raising produce which he marketed in Bellows Falls; in 1885 Nathaniel Monroe was raising strawberries in North Walpole and according to a deed had a greenhouse; H. H. Thompson raised strawberries, and in 1899 sold 5216 quarts in Bellows Falls; Oliver Joslin also raised strawberries; in 1895 Clifford Hinds had a greenhouse where Paul Rogers lives now; George Barnett was an amateur gardener, made "extravagant flower arrangements"; Wallace Patch raised gloxinias from seed, and marketed wholesale; Howard Andros has Boulder Wall Gardens where he specializes in peonies, hemerocallis, iris, oriental poppies; William Brownlee, gladioli. There have been others who had extensive gardens for their own pleasure, the most pretentious being those of Miss Fannie Mason.

The most important florist business ever developed in Walpole is that of Hermon Woodward. He came to Walpole as gardener on the Bridge Estate. After five years he bought a hill farm in Westminster where he started his Christmas greens business in 1908. The next year he came back to the Bridge estate for the summer and continued for four or five years. He then bought his place on the east side of Main Street and built a shop where he came to employ 30 people on Christmas greens. He finally outgrew these quarters, and when the Abenaki Machine Shop west of the Village Bridge went bankrupt, he bought the whole thing and overhauled it to suit his needs. From the damage of the 1927 flood he sustained a loss of \$7000 to \$8000 but continued until the 1936 flood utterly ruined the plant, with a silt deposit 8 to 10 inches deep.

He then bought Miss Mason's field and erected a new plant on Depot Hill. Here his son Philip had charge of the greenhouse and his son Elliot the woodworking plant. At first (1914-15) they made wooden novelties as greens' containers, primarily sleighs. This branch expanded into a wholesale trade with gift shops and department stores reaching to the midwest, tied in with a salesman for Henry A. Dreer of Philadelphia. Another salesman covered eastern New York and Pennsylvania. Now the relocation of Rt. 12 has again disrupted the business and the woodworking branch is being reestablished on Main Street.

Greens and berries are gathered in early September from a territory up to 150 miles from Walpole, the distance depending on the supply. Balsam is the chief evergreen used, with some white and red pine and some tiny spruce table trees.



Before the war 125 were employed making greens. Now 50 are employed, two-thirds of them women.

For years Woodward sent a wreath to the White House.

In the florist branch of the business Woodward specializes in Easter plants which are marketed through the Atlantic and Pacific stores, from Brattleboro north.

#### FAIRS, AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

In 1816 the Cheshire County Agricultural Society was organized with Walpole farmers taking an active part. (Chartered June 20, 1816—See *State Papers*) In 1817 Thomas Bellows and Thomas C. Drew were on the executive committee. The state appropriated money toward the premiums awarded at the fairs sponsored by the society, the sums being matched in the county. The first cattle show ever held in the state was put on by this organization in Charlestown in 1818.

In 1819 Samuel Grant received the premium for 528 bu. potatoes raised on one acre. In 1820 a State Board of Agriculture was set up with a president and delegate from each county society. Samuel Grant from Cheshire was elected treasurer. The following notice appeared in the *Farmers' Museum* Sept. 14, 1827: "The Cheshire Agricultural Society will hold its annual meeting at Drewsville, on Wednesday the third day of October next, and on the same day will be the Annual Exhibition of Stock and Domestic Manufactures. The Executive Committee will assemble at Brown's Hall at 8 o'clock A.M. The Society will convene at 9, and the procession form at 12. All articles presented for premiums must be entered with the Secretary before 10 o'clock. Committees had been appointed to judge the following classes: Oxen & Steers, and Ox Yokes & Bows; Bulls, Sheep & Swine; Cows & Heifers; Stud Horses; Wollen Manufactures; Linen Manufactures; Leather"

Opposition developed in the legislature and the appropriations for the premiums were not forthcoming. . . . "A positive injury . . . the farmers already know more than they can practice. . . . Premiums were called a lottery, they all went to the rich, more was expended for them than they were worth. . . . To vote money to encourage men to take their oxen 20-30 miles, fasten them to heavy and unreasonable loads and beat them unmercifully for the sake of a few dollars and the amusement of idle lookers-on who wager and gamble on the strength of their favorite cattle . . . our constitution will not justify nor sanction voting money



for such a purpose . . . encouraging cruelty, immorality and dissipation. . . .” Without financial support the societies gradually disintegrated.

In 1849 the N. H. Agricultural Society was organized, incorporated 1850. The first fair was held at Concord in 1850. The following from Walpole received premiums; E. C. Starkweather, David Buffum, Frederick A. Wier for cattle; F. A. Wier, David Buffum, Hodgskins and Kingsbury for sheep. At this fair the cattle breeds were “The Lordly Durham, the Sprightly Devon, the Heavy Hereford.” In 1852 Ayrshires were beginning to appear in the state.

In November 1878 the State Agricultural Board held a well-attended two-day session in Walpole with speakers on agricultural subjects, to which all were invited. Following this meeting, on November 30, 1878, the Walpole Farmers’ Club was organized for the purpose of “promoting the interests of agriculture by the intelligent discussion of topics connected therewith, and by bringing the farmers of Walpole into more intimate social relations with each other.” There were over fifty members with the following officers: President John W. Hayward, Vice President Alfred W. Burt, Secretary W. W. Guild, Treasurer Thomas B. Buffum and Executive Committee George B. Williams, Curtis R. Crowell, Albert S. Dickey.

The club met fortnightly during the winter season, the questions for discussion at each meeting being prepared by the executive committee, and published in printed programs. One or more free public lectures upon agricultural subjects, by distinguished practical farmers and scientists, were given each season. One of the most popular and enjoyable events was the annual festival supper attended by around 300. There were music and speeches and the women were welcome. At the regular meetings there were discussions among the members and addresses by invited speakers. Most seem to have been interesting, but on one occasion the speaker was so egotistical in his presentation that the members walked out on him. In 1885 we find the club meeting regularly, but by 1886 it seems to have gone out of existence.

#### 1875 FAIR

“The first exhibition of the Nine Towns Agricultural Association representing Walpole, Langdon, Alstead, Charlestown, Westmoreland, Rockingham, Westminster and Putney took place at Cheshire Park in Walpole Tuesday and Wednesday October 5th and 6th. The first day opened auspiciously. . . . The section of the country represented has long been



celebrated for its fine stock and the show of horses, cattle and sheep was, as might be expected, exceedingly fine. Nine handsome stallions were exhibited—George B. Williams, Charles Gates, F. J. Hubbard and S. S. King of Walpole. . . . The Hambletonian, Mambrino, Black Hawk and other strains were represented. Ten pairs of matched horses were shown, sixteen brood mares with colts, and a good number of promising two and three year old colts.

“The show of cattle, particularly of pure blooded stock was excellent . . . shorthorns from Langdon . . . G. B. Williams a herd of nine Jerseys. . . . Of grade cows and heifers there was a large number. Surry, Walpole and Langdon sent town teams of oxen and steers, of the former Walpole’s placed first, of the latter second.

“The show of sheep by 22 exhibitors was very large and embraced fine, coarse and middle wool breeds, the fine predominating. Of swine the Yorkshire and Cheshire predominated with three exhibitors.

“Two tents, together occupying a space of 52 x 82 ft. . . . were completely filled with fruits, products of the dairy, specimens of needlework, drawings, paintings, and manufactured articles of all kinds. . . . A little east of Floral Hall a great variety of the latest improvements in agricultural implements was to be seen. The display of garden vegetables was large and of great merit. There were 12 coops of hens, five of ducks and two of geese; a case containing ten varieties of pigeons. . . .

“The day’s programme consisted of trials of strength by draft horses and oxen, exhibition of working horses and trials of speed. The show of matched and single driving horses was of a superior order. . . .

“Two classes of trotting took place in the afternoon. . . . In the evening an informal lecture was given in the town hall by Rev. Dr. Bellows on subjects suggested by the fair . . . abounded in good things and was well received.

“The morning of the second day was cold and forbidding . . . but the attendance was good and the receipts more than sufficient to defray the necessary expenses of the society. The exercises included exhibition of town teams on the track . . . a baseball match between Walpole and Bellows Falls, the latter winning 18-6 . . . a plowing match by six contestants which excited considerable interest, won by L. C. Howe . . . a foot race with ten starters won by S. A. Ball of Walpole, John Harty, 3rd . . . two trots and a ladies’ driving match . . . Mrs. D. C. Ordway, 2nd . . . Mechanics’ Band from Marlboro furnished music. . . .



"In poultry we note the following breeds: Red Leghorn, Seabright Bantam, light and dark Brahma, Dominique, Plymouth Rock."

FAIR 1880, As Reported *Keene Sentinel*, September 30, 1880:

The Walpole Town Fair was purely an agricultural fair—no horse racing, no entrance fees, no premiums; everything exhibited was home grown or home made. There were exhibitions of speed on the bicycle by Nelson Hastings. . . .

"Besides the simple announcements of premiums awarded, some special notice is due to some of the exhibitions. The president, Mr. George B. Williams, and all his aides worked like heroes. Chief Marshal Perry and his two aides, two "Freds", Hubbard and Lebourveau, made a good appearance on their caparisoned steeds. Good order prevailed; no disturbance; the lock-up had no occupant. The exhibition of linen by Miss Sophia Guild was remarkable—7 table spreads, 1 doz. napkins, 1 doz. towels, 1 coverlid. The flax was raised on the farm, also broken, spun, wove and bleached at home. Sixteen yards wool flocking was also exhibited by the same person, spun, wove and colored at home.

"The display of vegetables was of good variety and the exhibition of fruit was extraordinary. Forty varieties apples by H. E. Houghton; 31 varieties by Jerome Lebourveau; Yellow Harvest Apples by William Hooper from a tree 110 years old, who had picked 10 barrels from it this year. The four varieties pears by J. H. Sargent, peaches by H. G. Barnes, and nine varieties of grapes by Hiram Watkins made our salivary glands very uncomfortable.

"Floral Hall was opened the first day at 10 A.M.; at 11 o'clock promenade through the streets led by the Westminster Band; 40 yoke of oxen and a bull; "Temple of Ceres" drawn by four horses, consisting of a farm wagon with a roof thatched with the cereals wheat, rye, oats and barley, containing every variety of vegetable grown—the mammoth 80 lb. squash was conspicuous—followed by 35 double, single and four horse teams. The second day the exhibition of stock on parade represented 40 yoke oxen and steers. The Brewery was represented by the "Heidelberg Tun of Strasbourg", a cask, capacity 28 bbls. They have them that hold 50 bbls., a little too large for this procession.

"Washington Square is now deserted—no pens, no cattle, no swine, no sheep, no horses; but a savory fragrance lingers that is not altogether pleasant."

Since 1926 the school has held an annual fair in the fall with a parade at the opening and an entertainment or dance in the evening.



## MERCANTILE BUSINESS

It is inferred that during early times there was no store kept in Walpole of any importance for in an old ledger that once belonged to Aaron Burt of Northfield, Mass., are found accounts against sixteen Walpole men. In 1762 a large invoice of nails and hinges is charged to Benjamin Bellows, that being the same year he built his new house.

In Walpole Village the mercantile business section developed around the Square toward the end of the 1790's. Much of this business development may be followed in the chapters on the decades and on the homesteads. In the earlier days the owner of a business generally owned the building in which it was located. In more recent years this has not always been so.

MacDonald's Store (#109), on the east side of the Square, was operated by Charles T. Kenrick around 1900. He sold the business to Charles H. Slade in 1904. After a few years it was taken over by Ralph Slade and Choate Bellows, they selling in 1915 to Charles S. Bain. Choate and Richard Bellows stayed on to help with the business. In 1920 George E. Wheeler bought the business and operated it until 1940. In that year the First National Stores rented the store, remaining until they moved to the building on the tavern lot. For a short time the Wheeler Store was rented to Robert Guest before he moved to #90. From 1945 to 1947 Blair and Ruth Baldwin owned and operated the business, selling to Alexander MacDonald in 1947. Mr. MacDonald enlarged the store in 1953 and continues to operate it.

The Bridge Fuel and Grain Company's building (#90), at the corner of High and Main Streets, was at one time a bakery shop. S. S. Washer opened there in 1895 in what had formerly been a meat shop. He had a daily sale of 90 loaves of bread and 10 dozen rolls, to say nothing of cakes, pies, cookies, candy, and cigars. He also sold ten cases of soda water a week and ice-cream and oysters in season. Later Mrs. Cota had a bakery here. For a time Charles Holden had a grocery store, but there was not much business at this location until Robert Guest purchased in 1945. He remodeled the building attractively and carried on a grocery and meat store for several years. Besides the grain, oil, coal, and bottled gas business the present owners have a retail store area for paints, some hardware and farmers' supplies.

The brick building (#10) at the corner of Turnpike Street was owned by Mrs. DeWitt Ordway in 1910. About that time she rented the lower floor to Fred A. Metcalf and Ira Hitchcock who operated a grocery store



here until 1914. Then Ira Hitchcock sold his interest to Clarence W. Houghton and the business continued as Metcalf and Houghton. They soon moved to a new location on Westminster Street (#5). In 1915 Alexander Bain opened a fish, meat and grocery store here, continuing until 1930. For about a year Adolphus Stevens operated a grocery store and he was followed by Francis Bashaw for about three years. It is now a dwelling house.

In 1926 Herbert R. Tucker took over the main floor of the building now occupied by the Thrift Shop (#8). He carried on a good printing business besides stocking a good line of merchandise to supply the needs of the community, such as stationery, cards, kitchenware and many articles not usually found in a small community. In October 1931 he bought the dry goods and shoe department from the Cahalane and Bemis Store. Herbert Tucker continued in business here until 1937 when he moved to #5 on Westminster Street. Mrs. Ralph Libby went into business here at #8, specializing in dry goods and shoes. She later moved to the space in the south portion of the Bemis Block which had been vacated by the post office. In 1946 Mr. and Mrs. George R. Harris took over Mrs. Libby's old store space and operated a book store along with their photographic work. The shop was known as The Leaf and Lens. More recently St. John's Church has operated a Thrift Shop here.

The Village Store (#6), on the north side of Westminster Street, was for many years a drug store owned by Archie I. Davis. In 1919 he sold out to Roy Peck of Bellows Falls. In 1929 Peck added to his store what had been Knowlton's jewelry shop and put in a luncheonette. In 1939 the place was completely done over and modernized. The present owner, Randall Daniels, operates a grocery store and sells novelties, still continuing the luncheon business but discontinuing the pharmacy.

The Tin Shop (#5), north side of Westminster Street, is the location to which Fred A. Metcalf and Clarence W. Houghton moved their grocery store from Turnpike Street. When Fred A. Lebourveau bought the building, he rented it to Charles W. Morse who operated a plumbing shop here until 1927 when Adolphus Stevens took over the business. Robert L. Galloway became a partner of Stevens from 1937 to 1940 when it became Galloway & Ratte. After about two years Galloway became owner and operated a sizable business in plumbing, heating, contracting and electrical wiring. He is now forming the Central Plating Company with Houle in the building back of the plumbing shop.

From 1900 to 1920 Frank A. Spaulding was operating a very successful store at #168 on the west side of Main Street, now known as the Bemis



Store. Charles H. Slade was in partnership with Spaulding for a short time. For a little while it was the only grocery store in town, and during that period Mr. Spaulding found it most difficult to satisfy the customers. In 1921 Fred A. Metcalf and Reginald F. Cahalane bought the store and operated it until 1926. They carried a large stock of groceries and hardware, a quite complete line of dry goods, and boots and shoes as well. They maintained two trucks for orders and delivery. Many farmers were still making butter and bringing it to the store to exchange for groceries. Metcalf and Cahalane began the sale of baker's bread at this store. In 1926 Metcalf sold his interest to Guy H. Bemis who purchased Cahalane's share in 1931. In 1945 Mr. Bemis remodelled the store for self-service.

In the north part of the Bemis Block the C. C. Davis drug store was carried on from 1866 until 1946. After the death of Arthur P. Davis, son of C. C. Davis, in 1937, the store was managed by Lila Pierce. She later purchased the business in the south side of the same building from Mrs. Libby, calling her place the Little Store. The Davis heirs sold the drug store business in June 1946 to Lyndon I. Wilson of Ware, Mass., who ran it for only a short time, selling to a Mr. Woodman who stayed but a few months. He sold in July 1949 to Ralph Brainard from Colebrook, N. H., who carried on the business until January 1954 when he sold out to Lester Chickering who has since taken on a partner, Alfred Martin.

The early mercantile business in Drewsville is quite fully covered in the chapter on the homesteads. The present store (#615) has been operated mostly by owners of the building. In 1919 Charles Moulthrop, a travelling salesman, bought the store and his wife operated it most of the time, later carried on by Wallace Sencabaugh. Before buying the building, the R. J. McKenvens rented the store and worked up an active business, not only in groceries, but also in automobile tires and parts. During the last three years of their being there, Mrs. McKenven served as postmaster. In 1930 the property was sold to Mrs. Ellen Buxton of Concord and the store was operated by Fred Swazey and later by Ralph Vining before being purchased by Harley Prentiss, the present owner.

There have been various mercantile enterprises in North Walpole. In 1878 Mr. Lockwood opened a store on Merchant Street and was succeeded there by F. G. Pierce, and then by S. C. Webster. However, the business was not fully satisfactory until taken over by Martin Barrett, followed by his son James who had a grocery and dry goods store. The closing of the grade crossing left this a dead end street and business went elsewhere.

In 1898 H. H. Davis opened a drug store on Center Street in North



Walpole but this has long been gone. At about that same time Miss Bridget Ryan had a bakery on this street. Later the Dombroskis had their bakery near the north end of Center Street.

At the corner of Center and Vine Streets there was a bottling works. Also, there were many saloons during the 1890's and early 1900's. Fifteen in the village comprised: on River St., Flavin, Moynihan & Bowen, Lloyd, Godsoe & Murphy, Killeen, Reilly & Connors, MacLeod, Denigan; at the bridge, O'Neil; on Center St., Manella, O'Neill, Patsy Galway, MacLeod and Brennan. In fact, the saloon in the house at the corner of River and Main Streets became Killeen's store. The present business was started in 1915 by Patrick Killeen and is now operated by Harold Killeen who sells meats and groceries.

Most of the stores in North Walpole are now on Church Street. Aumand's and Sons, the first store at the south end of the street, was incorporated in 1958. Ernest Aumand started barbering in the next building to the north in 1921. He gradually put in candy and ice cream and then added sporting goods. After the 1927 flood he started the present building to which he has added until he has filled all the available space. At the beginning Mrs. Aumand took care of the store while Ernest barbered. The stock now includes furniture, appliances, toys, clothing, paints, and boats.

Where the State Liquor Store is now (#92) Ernest J. Baldasaro started barbering 32 years ago. After being there twelve years, he moved to #90. In 1951 he built the Mt. Kilburn Sport Shop, next north, and now operates both the barber shop and the sport shop with the help of his wife.

On the east side of Church Street is the J & W Market (#96). When Tom Kenney came back from World War I, he worked here for Eugene Cray and before long bought the business which he operated until his retirement recently. James Van Etten now owns the business, selling groceries, meat, produce and beverages. Tom is still about the premises off and on.

Still farther north on Church Street is Karpinski's Store (#114). Stanley Karpinski was originally in business with his brother in Bellows Falls. He bought the property here in 1925 and developed the meat and grocery business.

#### FARM MACHINERY

Pinnacle View: Unable to get satisfactory service for his farm machinery, Albert Fletcher gradually worked into the business of selling and servicing such machinery. His first agency (1936) was for barn equipment



and the business was carried on at his farm buildings (#435). In 1938 he became a sub-dealer for a large wholesaler and took on a wide range of farm equipment, including Allis Chalmers. On Feb. 2, 1948 he formed a family corporation with his sons and the same year erected the cement block building on the premises. In addition to farm equipment the company also sells light industrial equipment, serving the territory for 50 miles around.

**R. N. Johnson:** In 1929 Ralph N. (Jack) Johnson started raising potatoes on a large scale in Walpole, out on Fay Hill. At the same time he took the agency for John Deere farm equipment. About 1936 he took on other lines and moved into the livery stable in the village. In 1937, the 100th Anniversary of the John Deere Company, he began holding John Deere Day, attended by the farmers and their families for miles around. In 1943 Johnson bought a part of the old Bellows Homestead (#482) on Rt. 12. On the west side of the highway Copley Amory had erected a sheep barn, a comparatively low building, open on the south side with divided doors which could be used to close the building. This building Johnson converted to stock and display rooms for farm equipment, with ample grounds and sheds for the vast amount of new and used machinery in stock. In 1945 the firm was incorporated, including R.N.'s son James K. . . . In 1947 they built a repair shop. They now handle equipment for "Farm, Woods and Industry," supplying Cheshire and Sullivan Counties in New Hampshire and Windham and Windsor Counties in Vermont. The John Deere Days which were originally held at the town hall are now held at the place of business.

#### BOOKS

**OLD SETTLER BOOKSHOP:** In 1929 Lee Byron Baker established this second hand bookstore. In 1943 Rense A. Kolvoord bought the stock and house, #270 on Rt. 12. He has a stock of thousands of books, sold mostly by mail order. He specializes in hard to locate first editions, literary and political subjects.

In 1946 Eric B. Lundberg bought the old Gilson place, #267 on Rt. 12 and operated a scientific (botanical) book business. In 1959 he sold to John Kolvoord brother of Rense.

#### OIL, COAL, GRAIN

**Connelly Fuel:** In 1889 Jerry E. Keefe started a coal business in North Walpole. He later took his son William J. into the business and in 1920 bought out the P. B. Lane business. The coal sheds were at Cold River



until 1927 when the company bought out the A & K Coal Company on Russell Street and moved to that location. After the death of his father in 1927 William J. continued the business until his own death in 1935. In April 1940 John J. Connelly bought the business and the offices are now in Bellows Falls.

Bridge Fuel & Grain Co.: In 1913 Frank A. Spaulding had a coal and grain business in the old toll house at the Village Bridge. In 1931 Carl Smith bought the business and operated until 1947 when his estate sold to George Leighton Bridge. Mr. Bridge and his son, George Leighton Jr., were forced to move when the new by-pass of Walpole Village went through their property. The company is now located at #90.

Checkerboard Warehouse: In 1960 the Ralston Purina Co. erected a building in which are sold their feedstuffs on the west side of the railroad near the northernmost underpass in North Walpole.

Cray Oil Company: On Dec. 27, 1920 Eugene Cray signed with the Texas Co. for the franchise to distribute their products in Vermont and New Hampshire and a distribution plant was put into operation in North Walpole. At approximately yearly intervals distribution plants were set up at Woodsville, Littleton and Lancaster, N. H.; at St. Johnsbury, Vt.; at Berlin, N. H.; at Newport, Ludlow, Chester, Newfane and Fairlee, Vt. This now constitutes the largest independent oil company in Vermont and New Hampshire. While the company has been in business Cray has built 102 filling stations, many of which have been leased to the operators. The company distributes gasoline, fuel oil, kerosene and lubricants. They employ 450 people, 32 being in the main office in North Walpole.

Mr. Cray also operates a chain of four drug stores in Vermont and is the distributor for National Distillers in western Massachusetts with offices at Springfield, Mass.

Kane and Healy: In 1944 Kane and Healy bought the Biltmore land on the west side of Church Street in North Walpole. Distributors of fuel oil, they have their tanks here.

Claremont Oil Company: In 1896 the Standard Oil Company bought land on the west side of the railroad in the north part of North Walpole. The tanks on the east side of Church Street now belong to the Claremont Oil Company.

Service Stations: In North Walpole Guy Baldassarro operates a gasoline filling station on Church Street near the north end of North Walpole; Edward Reardon operates a station on the old tavern site in Walpole



Village; at Cold River there is a service station owned by Eugene Cray; at Drewsville Harley Prentiss operates a station; Griswold's in the square.

#### PEDDLERS

Some came with pack on back, some pushing a cart, others with a horse drawn vehicle. "Old Coma", a withered little Irishman, plodded along the dusty roads in summer pushing his cart of palpably cotton napery which he assured one and all was 'pelpet', meaning pure linen. There was also the elegant Orison Bragg from Keene with his dazzling red cart drawn by a span of nettlesome black horses, with his outfit of shoes from Congress gaiters for Grandma to tiny white kid for the baby. He wore muttonchop whiskers and was always saying, 'My wife, she's troubled with gars'. (about 1884)

A peddler from Bartonsville came pushing a two-wheeled handcart about town selling dress goods and notions. He had white hair and eyebrows, but he dyed his mustache black. (about 1895)

In October 1895 a mule team from St. Louis came through town peddling stoves.

There was the tin peddler who exchanged the contents of the housewife's rag bag for shiny tin ware and other kitchen necessities. He sat high aloft in a creaking, rather faded red cart with little doors on the sides, and festooned with brooms, mopsticks, pails and other insignia of his trade. A patient horse, as a rule faded like the wagon, drew him about the countryside and his advent each summer was eagerly awaited.

September 1898, Joe Gordon, tin peddler, shipped 2,500 lb. rags to Boston

The soft soap man came at intervals and bought grease, wool and hides, making payment with soap to those farmers' wives who did not 'set' the leach barrel every spring, an accomplishment long forgotten.

Early Walpole peddlers were Hiram Redding (bought a cart in 1838 from Uriah Newton), Cyrus Bugby, Josiah Ball (tin). Others listed in the 1850 census were George Burt, Horace N. Thatcher, John Buntin, Alan-son D. Comstock, Ebenezer Titus.

An important factor of the old days was the meat cart painted yellow and with a white canvas top, that made trips biweekly through the outlying districts of the town. The interior was scrupulously clean and there was a lavish display of meats in orderly arrangement and occasionally fish in tubs of ice. The butcher in long white frock was an affably friendly man who weighed the customer's choice on steelyards, threw a bone to the dog and a bit of liver to the cat and told willingly the news of the



village. In the 1890's George Whitney in the Valley and W. A. Fletcher at #270 were running meat carts. Others who did butchering but did not necessarily have carts were Chapin and Burt (built 1884 a slaughterhouse on land now owned by G. L. Bridge on the River Road); Lewis Whitney in the Valley at the end of Maple Grove Road; Amasa Tiffany (Middle Street); George Watkins (South Street); John Adams (Whipple Hill); David Cushing (Carpenter Hill, #359); William Punt (lived Turnpike Street); Henry Chandler (1879 built slaughterhouse on Ravine Brook); Charles C. Worcester 1885 on Sparhawk Hill Farm; M. H. Gorham (peddled); Henry Tole 1890 slaughtering for B. Lovell, peddling from cart; George Whitney 1891 hired A. F. Maynard place (Drewsville) and ran a meat cart.

The early fishman announced his coming with a long horn. None of the early names have been recorded. Herbert E. Wells had a fish cart 1898-1910; Rowe Wier 1891.

Mention must also be made of those who every spring peddled hulled corn and horseradish.

The baker drove briskly through the farming districts, a string of bells announcing his approach.

Today the housewife is waited upon by the breadman, the milkman, the oil man, the dry cleaner, the insurance man, the sewing machine and vacuum cleaner agents and repair men, magazine salesmen, the Fuller Brush man, the Rawleigh or Avon agent, to mention a few. Or she may order from mail order houses with their guarantee of satisfaction. And it is no great effort to hop into her car and drive into town to satisfy her wants, so much quicker than hitching up a horse if she were so fortunate as to have one at her disposal. "Trading" habits have changed, the old Saturday night habit having given way to Friday night, and now crowded by Thursday because that is pay day. (Information largely from Edith Tiffany)

#### SAVINGS BANK ROBBERY

"On November 21, 1864, the Savings Bank of Walpole, incorporated 1853, was robbed of about \$52,000 in money and securities of various kinds, a large share of which belonged to Col. A. Herbert Bellows. David Buffum was president and Benjamin F. Aldrich treasurer. The bank office was in Aldrich's store. The burglary was accomplished by entry through a window into the store. . . . It was conjectured that the treasurer's movements had been 'shadowed' for some months in order to





THE TOWN HOUSE before 1875 (#67)



THE TOWN HOUSE between 1880 and 1915 (#67)

(Watkins)





THE TOWN HOUSE BURNING in 1917 (#67)

*(Watkins)*



THE TOWN HOUSE AFTER FIRE in 1917 (#67)

*(Watkins)*

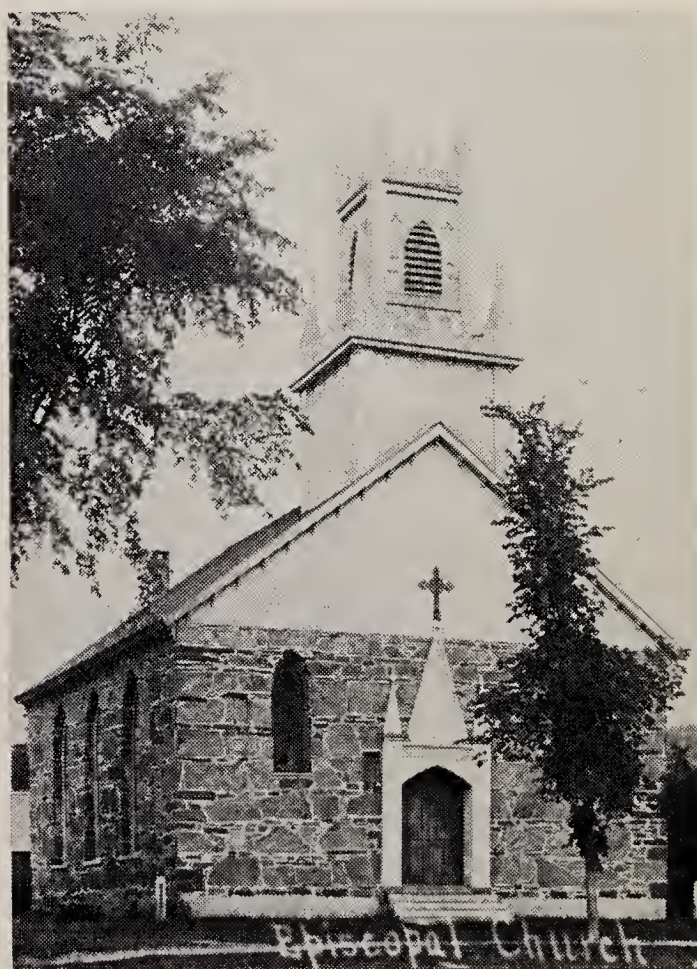




PENCIL SKETCH OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (#173)  
Before It Was Raised in 1873



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
in 1900 (#173)



ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH,  
DREWSVILLE





ST. JOSEPH'S R. C. CHURCH about 1890 (#68)



ST. JOSEPH'S R. C. CHURCH about 1955 (#68) (Harris)



ST. PETER'S R. C. CHURCH, NORTH WALPOLE (#N102) (Baker)





PROSPECT HILL MEETINGHOUSE  
before 1869



UNITARIAN CHURCH before 1920  
(#142)



UNITARIAN CHURCH, Feb. 19, 1920 (#142)





UNITARIAN CHURCH about 1950 (#142)



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH about 1910 (#58)

(Watkins)





POTTERY MADE IN WALPOLE, Historical Society Collection (see #452) *(Hastings)*



CRAFT'S TAVERN PUNCHBOWL  
Owned by Andros

*(Hastings)*





CLOCK BY ISAIAH EATON (#582)  
Owned by Kingsbury (Hastings)



SILVER BY ISAIAH EATON (#582)  
Owned by Kingsbury (Hastings)



BUREAU BY HOLLAND BURT  
Owned by Bridge (Hastings)



SECRETARY BY HOLLAND BURT  
Owned by Hastings (Hastings)



ascertain what disposition he made of the safe key before retiring for the night.

“This key was made up in three pieces, one of which was left in his desk drawer, one was put into his business safe and the other was kept in his pantaloons pocket on retiring from business at night. . . . They procured the piece the treasurer kept in his pocket first by stealthily entering his house by means of round forceps applied to his door key and entering his sleeping room and taking his pantaloons which were found on his doorstep the next morning. With false keys they entered his safe and drawer and were soon prepared to enter the bank safe. . . .

“Much excitement prevailed in the village the next day, and many crude and unjust speculations were made implicating some of the most worthy citizens of the town in the robbery. Although \$5,000 reward was offered no clue to the guilty parties was obtained till the following February when information was received from Washington that some of the stolen bonds had been sold. . . . Col. A. Herbert Bellows immediately started for Pennsylvania and obtained such intelligence as warranted him in employing New York detectives. The detectives obtained a clue which led them to suspect Mark Shinburn, who lived at Saratoga. They immediately repaired to Saratoga, but did not find Shinburn at his home on his farm. . . . On calling at the post office . . . they found that he had recently . . . taken a letter from his box . . . (and) gone to a minstrel performance.

“Shinburn knew one of the detectives and it was arranged that this detective should keep out of sight, when the performance closed, at which time it was proposed to arrest him. The other two stationed themselves . . . at the entrance door to the auditorium of the theatre. The play being over, Shinburn escaped the eye of the first detective, in passing out; but on arriving at the second door he was recognized by detective number two. Whereupon, at a signal, number three sprang forwards and the two closed in with him and had him in irons instanter. He contrived to get a letter from his pocket, which the detectives fortunately saw and took from him before he had time to destroy it, which, on opening, was found to contain two of the stolen bonds and some coupons which had been sent to Philadelphia to be sold, but were returned. This was sufficient evidence to warrant his being brought to Keene, where he was held for trial.” (*AH* 123-4)

In December 1897 (?) Wm. B. Watts, head of the detective branch of the Boston Police Department wrote of thieves and thief catching under



the title "From Jimmies to Dynamite" in the *Nickell Magazine*. In the course of a very entertaining article he said:

"Maximilian Schoenbein, far better known as Max Shinburn, was adept in the conception and execution of criminal plans. He has been distinguished by his critics, the Pinkerton Brothers, as the greatest bank, vault and safe breaker of this or any other country. He is a German by birth, and first came to this country in or near the year 1860.

"To perfect his knowledge of the mechanisms of safes he obtained employment under an assumed name in the works of the Lilly Safe Company. In their employment he gained a knowledge so intricate and exact of the construction of safe locks that he could readily duplicate any then in the market. Moreover, his ear was so acute and sensitive that by the turning of the dial he could determine at what number the tumblers dropped into place.

"He soon heaped up a fortune by his successful burglaries, and, although an inveterate gambler, he was so shrewd a speculator that he actually made another fortune by lucky turns of the market. He spent his income at first with an extravagant hand in dissipation and luxurious living and was a typical 'high roller' until he was arrested at Saratoga Springs for the robbery of the Walpole Savings Bank April 1865.

"The evidence against him was so conclusive that he was convicted and sentenced to ten years of imprisonment. He broke out of the jail at Keene on the night following his conviction and contrived to elude capture for many months, but was finally arrested after an unsuccessful attempt to rob a bank at St. Albans, Vt. He was sent to the state prison in Concord, but again this crafty and daring burglar was an over-match for his guards. His escape from the Concord jail was one of the most daring and skilfully planned in criminal history.

"His confederate in this escape was his partner in the robbery at Walpole, George Miles alias George White. A masked hole in the gate of the prison was cut one night by the contrivance of White and Shinburn and the next day Shinburn broke away from a marching line of convicts in the yard of the jail, escaped through the hole in the gate, got away in a light wagon waiting outside and in a minute was gone with his confederate, White, as fast as a fast horse could carry them over the line into Massachusetts."

Shinburn continued his life of criminality and for a time lived in Europe until he felt it safe to return to this country. He was finally arrested by the Pinkerton Agency in New York on June 28, 1895, on the



charge of robbing the First National Bank of Middleburg, N. Y. He was tried upon this charge and convicted in January 1896.

On his release from prison in New York, October 1898, Sheriff Horace A. Perry returned him to Concord to serve his term with accumulations. In 1903 he made a try to get released by trying to prove that he was Henry Edward Moebus but was unsuccessful.

#### SAVINGS BANK OF WALPOLE

Following the closing of the Savings Bank due to the burglary in November 1864, there was no bank in town until 1875. On July 2, 1875 a charter for the Savings Bank of Walpole was granted to Henry A. Hitchcock, John W. Hayward, Benjamin F. Aldrich (elected president), Thomas B. Buffum, Joshua B. Clark, Edwin K. Seabury and Josiah G. Bellows (elected secretary-treasurer).

Business commenced on October 1, 1875 in the office of Judge Josiah G. Bellows.

From today's viewpoint the early years of the bank's operation were rather meager. On January 1, 1877, after two years and three months of operation, the total deposits of the bank were \$29,289.00. The surplus at that period was \$33.32. Twelve years later on January 1, 1899, they had increased ten times to \$222,902.00 with a surplus of \$16,409.41.

Evidently the bank was operated in an efficient and capable manner in these early years, paying dividends each year of between 4 and 5 percent. It was the only bank in Cheshire County that passed through the panic of 1896 without going into receivership. It survived the depression of 1930-1932 and the bank holiday of 1932 in strong condition and no depositor has ever lost a single dollar intrusted to its keeping. Its purpose has been first, to safeguard the funds of its depositors while giving them the highest dividends on their savings consistent with a prudent investment policy; and secondly, to serve the community and area's economic life and foster its growth and development.

The deposits of the bank have shown a consistently healthy growth from that opening date of October 1, 1875 up to the present time. The growth rate has been increasing substantially in the past five years. The deposits on October 1, 1962, were \$11,148,628.00 and the surplus was \$1,358,205.00. The equity for each depositor's dollar is \$1.14, making it one of the higher ranking banks in New Hampshire in that respect. The management expense per deposit dollar is one of the lowest in the state which speaks well for the operating efficiency of the Savings Bank of Wal-



pole. Dividends are being paid at the annual rate of 4 percent compounded semi-annually.

The business of the bank was carried on from October 1, 1875 until 1892 at its present location in the law office of Judge Josiah G. Bellows. This building was purchased by the Savings Bank in 1892. As the services and the deposits of the bank grew, periodic additions and modernization of the building have been made. These additions and remodeling were made in 1927, 1947 and 1962. The latest addition, finished in 1962 together with a complete interior remodeling and decorating, has resulted in a beautiful, modern, efficient and appropriate building that the community can rightly take pride in.

The present officers of the bank are:

Oliver J. Hubbard	—President
William I. Mayo	—Vice-President
Malcolm D. Williams	—Treasurer
George R. Harris	—Assistant Treasurer

The present trustees are:

B. Ralph Brainard, John W. Galloway, George R. Harris, Austin I. Hubbard, Oliver J. Hubbard, William I. Mayo, Harley W. Prentiss, Holmes H. Whitmore, Malcolm D. Williams.

#### MANUFACTURING

In 1773 John Marcy and Ebenezer Swan “from the Generous motive of the publick good, as well as their own perticular profit advantage” having “determined to erect in the town of Walpole . . . a mill for the purpose of making Linseed Oil” petitioned the General Court to “Grant them that no other person or persons whatever shall be allowed to Erect any Mill or Mills within the County of Cheshire . . . for and during the Term of Twenty Years” since “experience teaches that when persons have under taken to prosecute any new scheme, which, in a few hands, might be advantageous to the publick and to the Managers, others (from hopes and Expectations of the great gains arising therefrom) undertake the same, to the Destruction of said business and to great Damage of those who First engaged therein . . . as has been the case with regard to the Potash and Pearlash Trade.” *Town Papers New Hampshire, Hammond Vol. VIII p 597.*

The petition was granted May 26, 1773, but there is no record to indicate that linseed oil was ever made in Walpole.



For some time an extensive business was carried on in town in the manufacture of potash; in fact, the first manufacturing done in North Walpole, except for sawmills, was potash making. One of the largest works was located a few rods south of Tucker Bridge at so-called Potash Hill. In different parts of the town the location of the asheries is frequently discovered on moving the soil. One large establishment near the residence of Allen Dunshee (#217) was carried on by Joseph Bellows. Amasa Allen had a potash on his land near #231 on the River Road. Col. Benjamin Bellows had a potash at the south end of Main Street in 1774. In 1817 Dana and Bellows were ready to receive ashes at their new Pearl-ash Works near Walpole Village. Isaiah Eaton had a potash near the brook on his land on Eaton Hill. There was one on Roger Fenton's farm in the Valley and in 1827 one at Samuel Nichols' in Drewsville.

In clearing the land the trees had to be disposed of so they were piled and burned. The ashes were put into leaches. Water was poured over them, drawn off at the bottom, and boiled in iron kettles to form lye which was used in making soap. The public potash works were rude wooden structures, referred to as potashes.

In 1776 a committee proposed to manufacture firearms in Cheshire County, £300 lawful money to be expended in the project. The chairman was Benjamin Bellows Jr., treasurer Thomas Sparhawk. There is no record of what they did.

In the late 1790's John Livingston Jr. and Gurdon Huntington, and Amasa Allen, Samuel Grant and Joseph Barnard seem to have been in the gun-making business, how extensively is not clear.

On December 27, 1805, a charter was granted to the Walpole Mechanic Society (Samuel Grant, Nicanor Townsley, et al.) "for the purpose of promoting and aiding Manufacturers and the Mechanic Arts."

In 1828, on December 29th, a charter was granted to Fall Mountain Factory Company (Nathaniel Tucker, Wm. Hall, James J. Cutler, Henry Atkinson Green, Thos. Bellows, Richard D. Tucker, et al.) to manufacture cotton and woollen goods, machinery and other branches of business connected therewith on or near the easterly bank of Connecticut River in Walpole; real estate up to \$150,000; stock null and void if manufacture not commenced within 5 years; not to interfere with construction of any canal by authority from the state. This seems to have become null and void.

On Jan. 7, 1853, the Walpole Carpet Company was chartered (Augustus Faulkner, George S. Smith, Frederick Vose, David Buffum, Aaron P. Howland) to manufacture carpets and fabrics of cotton and wool and



such other branches of manufacture and trade as may be necessarily connected therewith, in the town of Walpole. Property not to exceed \$100,000. There is no evidence of carpets being manufactured.

#### WOODWORKING

The first mill in town was located at the foot of Blanchard Falls as early as 1756, probably both saw and grist. For the story of the various water power mills see WATERWAYS. For the story of the carriage shops see Turnpike and North Main Streets in HOMESTEADS.

The last surviving water power sawmill in town was that at the millpond north of Walpole Village. In May 1940 the Walpole Ice and Lumber Company built a new mill on the bluff north of the old mill, in the section which had formerly been used entirely for a lumber yard. This replaced the old mill which had been in operation more than 100 years.

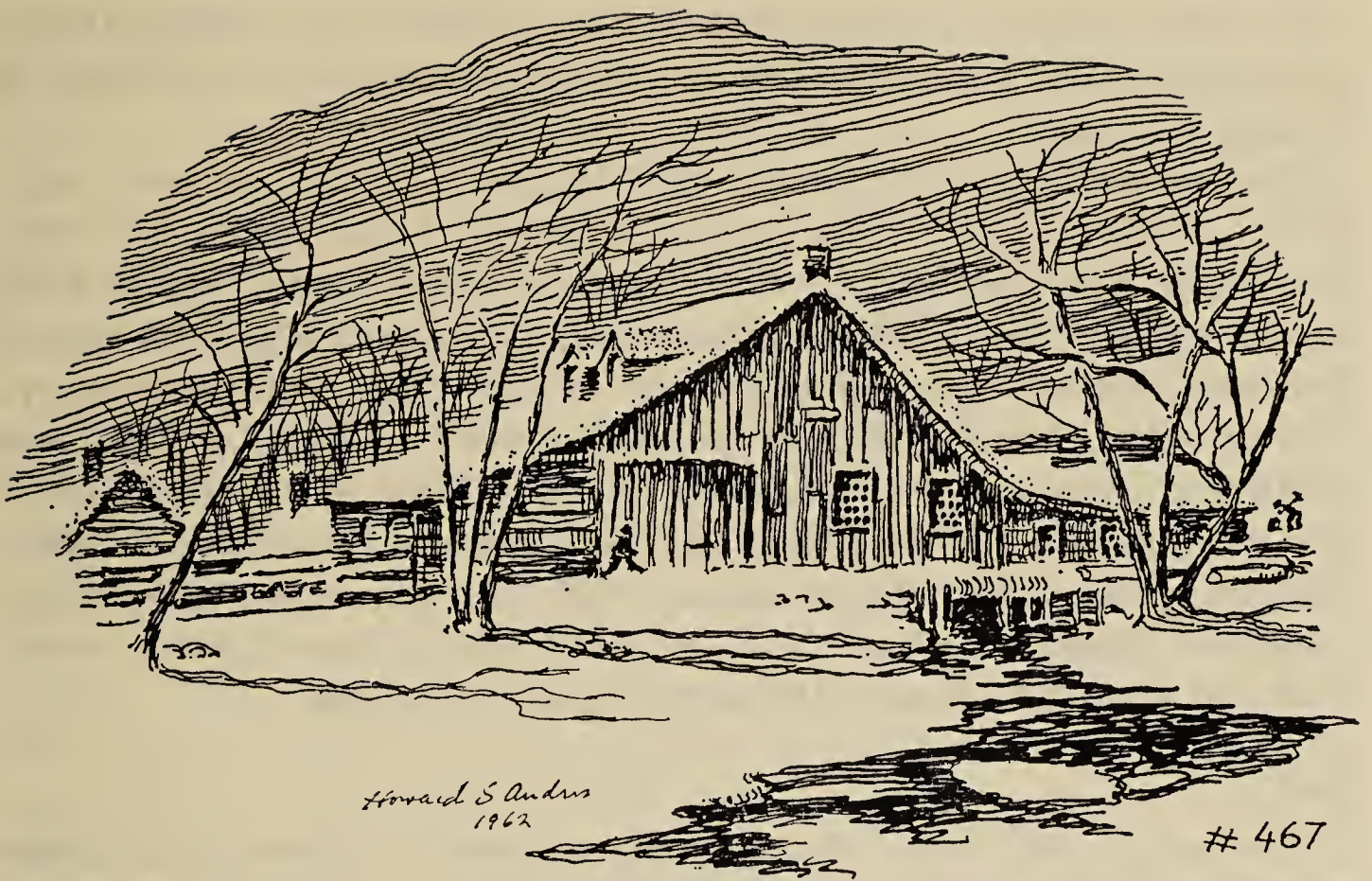
Henry Mellish, who lived in the Valley, invented a machine for turning wooden pill boxes with a cover. This was patented and sold to the Bond brothers, William A. and Charles B., of Drewsville. They began the manufacture of pill boxes in 1846 at a mill on Cold River below the gorge, selling their entire output to David Janes (Jayne) & Sons of Philadelphia. They are said to have manufactured 45,000 gross annually, as well as picture frames for advertising. They also did considerable job work and at times employed several workmen. They were followed in the business by William Bond's sons Edward S. and David J. who sold the property in 1901.

On the south side of Cold River there was the Sash and Blind Shop of Joseph Fisher, see in the Drewsville section of HOMESTEADS.

In North Walpole around 1885 Albert F. Nims and James H. Heald were manufacturing chairs. Heald's shop was probably north of Ash Street. Nims' may have been near the west end of Pine Street.

The following advertisement appeared in the *Museum* Dec. 7, 1827: "William Conant would inform his friends and the public that he has taken a large and commodious building opposite N. Holland's Coffee House in Walpole Village, where he will manufacture, on the shortest notice, of the best materials, and at reduced prices: SIDEBORDS, SECRETARIES, BUREAUS, LOCKERS, SOFAS, CANDLESTANDS, WASHSTANDS, WORKSTANDS, BREAKFAST AND DINING AND TEA, TOILET, WORK AND CARD TABLES: HIGHPOST, FIELD, FRENCH, COT AND COMMON BEDSTEADS, &c, &c. His stock of work on hand will generally enable him to supply his friends and customers whenever they call. The latest and most approved style will be





*Old Coburn Mill*

noticed and observed. Most kinds of Lumber and Produce will be received in payment. All favors will be duly acknowledged. Wanted, immediately, an apprentice to the above business, to whom good encouragement will be given."

Holland Burt was a cabinet maker later at the same stand.

#### GREEN COMPANY, NORTH WALPOLE

Lowell Green came to Bellows Falls in 1917, was in business at what came to be the Bragg Lumber Company. In 1918 he built the plant in an open field which he bought of Owens on the east side of Main Street, opening for business that summer. He continued in the business until his death in July of 1946. On Dec. 2, 1946, the J. H. Dunning Corporation bought the business and continued. Originally the company manufactured pine boxes but about 1949 began to diversify. It now makes a quarter million beverage cases a year. About ten years ago, when paper milk cartons were introduced, the company started manufacturing cases to hold 12, 16, or 20 quart cartons, and 9 half-gallons. These boxes are made of beech, birch, maple, ash, oak and they are sold to milk companies in this area and such companies as Bordens.

When Christian Rist came as superintendent, Eugene Cray finished the plant on the west side of Church Street where they manufacture instru-



ment cases, tool cases, counter displays, and cutlery boxes, using African mahogany, birch, and walnut. Here are made many cases for American Optical Company.

The following are carpenters in Walpole at the present time: George Podwin (built the Peter Boudrieau house #117 on High St., Perley Smith's #602); John Prentiss (Samuel Lewis house #253, Forbes cottage #454, Harley Prentiss #614, Leighton Bridge #231); Floyd Peterson, worked with John Prentiss 1936-45 (has built Stewart W. Holmes #197, Martin Murray Jr. #198, Stanley Conley #357, James Smith #484, Norman Schofield #407, William Allen #103, Howard Wilbur #356, Robert Sanford #429); Maurice Robbins (David Staples #199, his home place #268, Clifford Foster #269, Jira Jennings #127); Walter Campbell; Stuart & Latham; Wallace Albro; Burl Tilton; Paul Aumand; Paul and Russell Galloway. Herman Sargent is a mason.

#### SHOES

"As early as 1815, an enterprise was commenced in town which subsequently was prosecuted to a considerable extent. It was the manufacture of sale shoes for the Southern market, and was commenced by Jonathan H. Chase, at the south part of the town, on the premises now owned by one of the Houghton brothers. (1880) Mr. Chase removed there, about 1815-16 from a portion of the town called "Lane's Mills," his first purchase in town; and commenced the tanning business; and, not finding a local sale for all his leather, he conceived the idea of manufacturing 'brogans,' thus using his surplus leather. At the outset the business was conducted in a small way, the work then being all sewed; by which it may be inferred that pegged shoes and boots did not obtain at that time. Mr. Chase's shoes were consigned to his brother-in-law, J. B. Kimball of Boston, . . . and sold on commission. It was not long before pegged work came into general use, when the business was prosecuted with energy, employing a large number of workmen in town and out. During that decade, Jared Miller was manufacturing boots and shoes for George Carlisle, a Walpole man, who had established himself in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Chase having purchased the old Johnson tavern and store, the latter as a place of business, he removed his family and effects to the village, in 1834, or about that time, and, in conjunction with his two sons, Charles E. and Aaron K., continued the business for several years. In the meantime other shoe firms were in operation which gave the town the appearance of a miniature Lynn. Many of the shoemakers were young, unmarried men, who were a roistering improvident set of fellows, spending all



their earnings and sometimes more, dressing in an extravagant style, wearing the highest priced Saxony broadcloths and other expensive material to match. Their wages were graded by their dexterity and application to business. The prices paid for bottoming 'brogans' ranged from twenty to twenty-seven cents per pair, and an expert workman could bottom from five to eight pairs per day. The business continued brisk till the financial crash of 1837, when it declined. The manufacture of boots and shoes, however, for the western market was carried on by Amherst K. Maynard & Co., until within a recent period." (*AH* 99-100)

Jonathan Chase's tannery was on Houghton Brook, east side of Wentworth Road, and his shoe shop was on the west side.

Other tanners who have carried on the business in town were: John Cooper who had a tanyard before 1782 probably somewhere near the present (1962) Gerald Hill farm; David Stevens, Daniel Bisco, Leonard Bisco, Harvey Reed all at the same place on Mad Brook, east side of North Main Street, burned 1847; Joseph Thatcher on the brook on present Turner farm on North Road; John P. Maynard on brook east of Drewsville and his son Augustus Maynard (also wool pulling here) from 1839, torn down 1902. This same tannery of Maynard's had also been owned by Ira Burk, Jacob W. Kendall, Oren Rawson, Ira Emerson, Nathaniel Vilas, Henry Slade, Samuel Mellish, all before the Maynards.

Some of the other men who made shoes in town were Levi Ball, John G. Titus, Ransom Ball, Jarvis Hinds, Dean Ray, George M. Snow, Jacob Hall, Moses Wait, William C. Sherman, Edwin F. Putnam, Albert Wight, Thomas Shean, Hollis Streeter, John O'Connor, Edward Livingston, Charles Green, George Allen. In 1850 there were 31 shoemakers in town.

#### SHIRT FACTORY

"In 1850 Mr. Silas M. Bates moved from Watertown, Mass., to this town and commenced the manufacture of shirts. The business was carried on by Mr. Bates, in conjunction with his wife, in a safe, economical but small way, till his wife died, when other parties continued the business in the same small way, for several years. In 1864 a copartnership was formed by Silas M. Bates and Benj. F. Aldrich, under the style of Bates & Aldrich. Mr. Aldrich had previously been in the mercantile business in town, and had, by economy and industry, accumulated a handsome fortune for country life. The company purchased some buildings on Turnpike Street suitable for their business and commenced the manufacture of shirts in earnest. To facilitate their business they purchased a large steam engine, which not only furnished motive power sufficient for their own use, but



for running a saw and grist mill, planing machine, shingle machine and some half dozen other machines for the cutting and fashioning of lumber for various purposes. The lumber business was carried on by Lyman Ellis & Co., to whom Bates & Aldrich furnished the power for a stipulated yearly rent. For a few years an immense quantity of lumber was cut up and disposed of, and a large number of hands employed.

"Bates & Aldrich employed some sixty females and half a dozen males in their factory, besides a large number of seamstresses living in and out of town. They paid their help liberally, the monthly pay roll was heavy, and a great share of the employes' earnings was spent in town. At length Mr. Ellis became financially embarrassed, and, in order to utilize the rented steam power, Bates & Aldrich had to assume his debts and form a copartnership with him.

"The business went on, apparently in a prosperous condition, till the June of 1876, when Mr. Aldrich, who knew the financial condition of the firm, suffered a small note to go to protest, which brought about a settlement with the firm in bankruptcy. The firm of Bates & Aldrich paid fifty per cent; Aldrich, thirty, and Bates, twenty, of their indebtedness. The last two mentioned embraced their individual indebtedness. Their liabilities were over \$200,000. It was a severe blow not only to Bates and Aldrich, but to their employes and the general business of the town. The failure was mainly caused by the shrinkage of values, not only the manufactured goods, but on the material from which the goods were made, of which the firm had bought heavily a short time before the failure occurred." (*AH* 126-7)

In 1874 the value of the annual manufacture of shirts and collars was \$71,000. The firm also maintained a wholesale store in Boston in which they had suffered loss by fire in November 1874. In their day they were the largest manufacturers of shirts exclusively in the country.

In 1877 E. K. Seabury bought the building used for the steam mill. The smoke stack which had so freely distributed cinders to the neighbors was removed, and the steam whistle transferred to the new brewery on Cold River.

#### BREWERY

In the spring of 1877 Walker, Blake & Company erected on Cold River a lager beer brewery. The building was of brick, 60 ft. x 42 ft., five stories high, and cost \$56,000. It was built after a model shown at the Centennial in Philadelphia and was first of its type in the country. The refrigerator contained 600 tons of ice and the beer capacity was 2000 bbls. Charles



Keller, from Germany, was the brewer and E. E. Dewey of Bellows Falls the general agent. It was known as the Fall Mountain Brewery. In 1880 Aldrich wrote: "The business is in successful operation, employing eleven hands constantly, making about 15,000 barrels beer annually." The plant burned May 5, 1882, but was rebuilt. It burned again Sept. 7, 1905.

In 1893 the name was Mountain Spring Brewery Company. It went through various exchanges of ownership and by 1904 it was defunct. For a description of the process of manufacture see *Bellows Falls Times* June 27, 1895.

It is said that one Easter Monday morning the Brewery was set afire, the beer allowed to run from the great vats into the river. Was this temperance activity?

#### PAINT MINE

In 1873 New York parties erected a building 100 ft. x 50 ft. in the fork of the roads from Bellows Falls to Drewsville and Surry respectively. Here there was supposed to be an outcropping of a vein of iron which had its beginning in Alstead. It was probably this same iron that contributed to the medicinal qualities of the Abeniqui Springs water. This company proposed to use the iron-rich clay to make paint. About one-fourth mile farther east on the Drewsville road was the boarding house for the help, known as "Peep O'Day." The hill between was referred to as Paint Mine Hill. Nothing came of this project and in 1876 the unsightly building served only as a bulletin board to advertise circuses and medicinal powders.

There were some diggings made to open a black lead mine on the hill back of what was formerly the George Jennison farm, he reserving rights to this mine when he sold the farm. The diggings went down some distance but there were no buildings. It was worked for a time, but nothing came of it. To find this, follow the stonewall next south of the old Quinton place on the Hubbard Road.

#### COLD RIVER SAND AND GRAVEL CORPORATION

In 1927 Lucy A. Whitcomb bought the old Carpenter Tavern (#589) at the south end of Fall Mountain, now used for the headquarters of the sand and gravel business. Frank W. Whitcomb and his sons have excavated the side hill on the south side of Cold River and east of the stone arch bridge, and have sold the sand and gravel primarily for road construction. They have acquired other holdings in Walpole and have a ready-mix cement plant in Charlestown.



## FELDSPAR PLANT

In 1930 the Eureka Feldspar Company erected a plant at Cold River for grinding the feldspar brought in from the mines in Acworth and Alstead. For the preceding three years the crude product had been brought to Cold River for shipment to Trenton, N. J. at the rate of 500 tons per month. Operations in the new plant were begun July 16, 1930, by the American Mineral Products Company. The initial investment was \$60,000. In 1932 the company had gone into receiver's hands and was bought by Seaboard Mills Corporation of Baltimore.

In 1939 the Seaboard Mineral Products Company had been operating fairly steadily for several years. The Yuhas mine had then been operated 12 years. Mining was carried on at several locations such as Colony and other mines near Alstead.

The feldspar was sorted by hand to remove beryl, mica and excess quartz, then trucked eight miles to the plant. There the chunks were crushed to inch diameter, passed through a secondary crusher, then to the ball mills (large revolving drums) to be crushed between round pebbles and flint bricks imported from France. This gave the fine powder used in the glaze for porcelain, bathroom enamel, tile, crockery. By-products were used for making scouring powder. In 1939 there were 7,000 tons produced, about half the top capacity. Supt. MacPherson had 35 employees.

On February 5, 1945, early in the morning, the plant burned with 150 tons of spar on hand. The valuation was then \$90,000, owned by General Mineral Corporation and leased to Cold River Mineral Corporation of Boston.

The plant was rejuvenated and operated by various mineral companies, the last being the Foote Mineral Corporation, but never at full capacity. In 1961 the plant was dismantled and sold to the Greenheart Marine Equipment Company.

## GREENHEART MARINE EQUIPMENT COMPANY

In 1961 C. Rodman Wing started the company, working in the barn connected with his residence (#4) on Westminster Street, then moved to the present location at Cold River (#592). The employees were increased from the two in 1961 to 15 in 1962, with prospects of a much larger staff in 1963.

Currently the prime product is a swimming float made from a combination of the old and the new. The wood in the float is Demarara



Greenheart imported from South America and known to be highly resistant to the action of water, insects and decay. Pilings of this wood used in London docks are still sound after nearly two centuries. Dense and resistant as it is, the wood is too heavy to be used alone for a float. It is, therefore, used as a boxlike frame which is filled with polyurethane, one of the newer foam plastics, weighing about one-twentieth as much as water. The result is a long-lasting floatable unit.

Mr. Wing has also interested himself in the high insulation value of the foamed polyurethane. A house using insulated panels made by Greenheart is under construction on North Main Street for Arthur Schade, on land formerly owned by Leslie Hubbard. Due to the high degree of insulation the only source of heat deemed to be necessary is electricity.

#### GILBERT ASSOCIATES, INC.

During the 1930's Colgate Gilbert, who was then living in the smaller house on the rise of ground in back of #459, experimented with silver plating in the basement of his home. It is said that his first trials were made in a tank adapted from an automobile battery box. From that time until the Second World War Mr. Gilbert carried on a small business in silver plating objects for those in the surrounding territory. He also experimented with chrome plating.

During the early part of the war there was need for plating facilities and Mr. Gilbert formed Gilbert Associates, Inc. This business occupied a small complex of buildings between his residence, mentioned above, and the main house on the Gilbert estate. Proximity to the machine tool industry along the Connecticut Valley and the variety of plating carried on made a good business. As many as thirty people were employed for long hours plating parts for machines essential to the war.

Much of the plating was "hard chrome" which was in great demand for many small parts. Also produced were "bright chrome" which left the shop buffed and polished, and the extremely difficult "satin chrome" finish was also produced.

At the cessation of hostilities orders dropped off and a few years later the business closed its doors, leaving few, if any, signs that thousands of parts essential for the war had been processed here.

#### HICKS MACHINE, INC.

Hicks Machine, Inc., was started in 1951 by S. Trafford Hicks, Jr., and Ernest L. Mitchell. The factory building with 4,000 sq. ft. of floor space



is located on a four-acre plot on the Bellows Falls Road (#488). Current employment is about twenty.

Equipped with precision metal working machines of many kinds and precise inspection instruments, the company carries on a variety of subcontract machine work, fabrication, design and engineering. Most of the subcontract parts find their way into machine tools manufactured in the vicinity, as well as into missiles and ordnance.

The company also produces the Hicks Coordinator, a precision, optically controlled, template layout machine for use in the electronic and sheet metal industries. This machine, known as the "poor man's jig-borer," is said to do the work that machines selling for five times as much are designed to do.

#### BRENNAN WELDMENT CO., INC.

In 1955 the Brennan Weldment Co., Inc., moved to the old Whiting Creamery building in North Walpole from Bellows Falls where it had been operating since around 1948. About ten people are employed at this location.

This company does industrial welding, steel and aluminum fabrication, producing under subcontract a wide variety of components for machines and mechanical installations. The term "weldment" applies to parts formed from heavy gauge metal and welded into shapes which could otherwise be obtained only by the more costly method of casting.

#### TECHROMATIC, INC.

Techromatic, Inc., came to North Walpole from Bellows Falls in 1953, having been burned out there in November 1952. At that time it was known as Saratoga Plastics, the name taken from Saratoga Springs, New York, where the company was formed in 1946. In December 1959 the company merged with Glide Control Corporation and became Techromatic, Inc.

Mr. Warren L. Rand, a resident of Walpole, is president of the company; Mr. Theodore F. King of Bellows Falls, vice-president and treasurer.

Thirty or forty people were employed in 1953 shortly after moving to North Walpole. Now the employees number 80 to 100.

A variety of plastic molding is carried on in the plant; injection, transfer and vacuum forming. Most of the products are of industrial utility and are encountered by the public only as part of some machine or



assembled product. Techromatic has a cord setting line which makes the spring-like coil in telephone or appliance cords, thereby keeping the cords compact and out of the way, yet readily extendable.

#### UNITED MURRAY WOOD HEEL COMPANY

In June 1949 the United Murray Wood Heel Company moved from Brattleboro into the new building erected for them by E. P. Cray on a lease-purchase plan. Built of cinder block and cement and located in North Walpole west of the Vermont Packing Plant, the main building is 250 ft. x 60 ft., the second 76 ft. x 60 ft., with a third building for the boiler plant. The company made about 25,000 pairs of heels per day, supplying about 35 shoe manufacturers. They used about 11½ million feet of maple per year. This arrived green and was dried in kilns. The plant employed about 100 people but by 1959 it had given up its operation here in North Walpole.

#### WHITELIGHT INDUSTRIES

In October 1959 the Whitelight Industries, Division of the White Metal Rolling & Stamping Corporation of Brooklyn, New York, moved into the then vacant wood heel plant and began production of magnesium ladders. From an employment of three at that time it has grown so that now 45 people are employed on a steady level of work.

The principal products of the company are magnesium and aluminum ladders of many kinds, including large extension ladders. Mr. Earl Records, the Plant Manager, says that this company is the largest manufacturer of metal ladders in the world. In addition some other metal products are made, such as rakes, including a leaf rake with teeth so formed that leaves cannot collect on them. Currently the extruded metal shapes are brought from other plants to this one for cutting, shaping and assembly. Dies for such work are made at this location. It is expected that extrusion of the metal into the shapes now brought in will be carried on in North Walpole in the not too distant future.

#### ENTERPRISE MACHINE COMPANY

The Enterprise Machine Company was started in 1951 by Myrton W. Edson at 107 Church Street in North Walpole. Mr. Edson is president of the company which specializes in precision machining of metals, making jigs and fixtures and special purpose machines. Most of the work comes as sub-contract from the larger machine tool and other manufacturers in the area. Normal employment is about 18.



## VERMONT PACKING PLANT

In 1908 the Vermont Packing Company (Davis of Cavendish, Vt., and Stephen Cray of North Walpole) erected a two-story brick building at the north end of Main Street in North Walpole, east of the northernmost underpass. Here they planned to slaughter hogs from the west and from New York State and cattle from northern New England, employing 25 men. At the height of its operation, 500 hogs a week were consumed in turning out sausage. When the United States entered the first World War, it is said the fifteen German sausage makers in the plant were interned by the F.B.I. for fear they would poison the sausage. That was the end of the sausage business.

The business continued until after the crash in 1929, although it had been in receiver's hands since February 1928.

In 1930 James Meany bid it off for \$24,500 subject to a \$15,000 mortgage, the original cost \$250,000. It was operated under lease to Alexander Shapiro of Laconia. In 1933 Eugene Cray foreclosed the mortgage. It was used for the slaughter of TB reactor cattle. In October Cray relinquished his interest to M. Jacobson and Sons of Worcester. In March 1935 Eli Jacobson, manager, was summoned to court charged with cruelty to animals, having failed to provide proper shelter for 400 animals. Cattle were coming in by freight in carloads faster than they could be slaughtered (75-100 slaughtered per day). The sheriff ordered the cattle loaded into freight cars where the railway employees fed and watered them. They had been penned in deep mud, some unable to walk. The superintendent was fined \$100 and costs of \$131.40. Jacobson paid the costs of handling by the railroad, about \$1000. He had been previously warned.

Idle since 1937, the business was sold in 1943 to a New York firm, but taken back later. In 1950 it was sold to the North Walpole Realty Company, of which the officers were Frank M. Gysels, followed by F. August and Frank C. Gysels, all of Antwerp, Belgium. In recent years its business has been the slaughter of horses, most recently for the Quaker Oats Company. The plant is now closed.





## Chapter VI

# ORGANIZATIONS

THE WALPOLE SOCIETY FOR BRINGING TO JUSTICE HORSE THIEVES, PILFERERS OF GARDENS, FRUIT TREES AND CLOTHESLINES

**A**T A MEETING “of the within subscribers”, eighty-nine in number, at Asher Southworth’s Tavern on the 12th of October 1816 a constitution was adopted establishing the WALPOLE DETECTING SOCIETY. In 1821 the name was amended to WALPOLE SOCIETY FOR DETECTING AND PUNISHING HORSE THIEVES AND PILFERERS AND PLUNDERERS OF GARDENS AND FRUIT ORCHARDS, and an agent or attorney added to the roll of officers “the more effectively to carry into execution” the added function of the society. (Deleted 1909) By 1880 clotheslines and henroosts were added to the list of protected property.

On June 26, 1835 (*Laws of N. H. Vol. 10, p. 674*) a charter was granted to the WALPOLE SOCIETY FOR BRINGING TO JUSTICE HORSE THIEVES AND PILFERERS. In addition to the routine provisions the constitution contained the following articles; in substance:

1. The officers—Clerk, President, Treasurer, Committee of Three and Twelve Riders.

5. “It shall be the duty of the committee upon all applications made



to them by any member of said Society from whom any horse or horses have been supposed to have been stolen, if in the opinion of the committee the owner has made sufficient search, to direct such a rider or riders as they may judge expedient to pursue such horse or horses and thief or thieves, and shall have full power to substitute a rider or riders on special occasions and make drafts on the treasurer for such moneys as they judge necessary pay for said riders, and sign an advertisement or advertisements for said horse or horses or thief or thieves with a reward not exceeding fifty dollars for the thief or thieves and to make all regular drafts on the treasurer.”

6. “It shall be the duty of the riders to pursue at the shortest notice on such a route as the committee shall direct, and keep an account of their expenditures and present the same to the committee on their return.”

7. “Any inhabitant of Walpole may become a member of this Society by paying Two dollars to the Treasurer and signing the by laws.”

10. An equal assessment may be made on the members to supply the treasury, such moneys to be used only for the purposes expressed in the by laws “and if the committee or riders apprehend any person as being a horse thief the expense shall be paid out of the treasury, but if anyone shall hire or borrow a horse and go away with it the case shall not come within the purview of this institution.”

11. All premiums claimed by the riders in the service of the Society shall be put into the treasury of the Society.

12. Anyone moving from Walpole ceases to be a member; changed in 1927 to be allowed to remain a social member. Membership was usually confined to the gentlemen although for a time women were allowed to join: 1885 Mrs. James L. Mitchell, Miss Clara Gowing; 1887 Mrs. L. A. Ross, Mrs. John Nicholson, Mrs. Theodore Schultz; 1903 Mrs. F. M. Gilbert; 1959 Mrs. Mabel B. Leete.

In 1910 it was voted that each member could bring a guest to the banquet by paying for his meal. In 1914 voted to allow ladies to be invited on the same basis as other guests.

In 1924 a committee was set up to prepare an amendment on the stealing of automobiles. In 1926 the committee reported that such an amendment did not seem advisable and the matter was dropped.

Until 1954 the meetings were warned with as much formality as a town meeting.

According to a news item (*Keene Sentinel* Jan. 9, 1906) “during the long life of nearly ninety years (the Society) has never caught a horse thief



and has recovered only two horses stolen from members." In 1906 people were stealing railroads rather than horses. To justify the existence of the society for other than social purposes we have searched the records and newspapers and have come up with the following.

In 1830 voted an agent be appointed to attend court in Plymouth, Mass., for the purpose of convicting the person who stole a horse from Josiah Bellows 3rd, each member to be assessed 50¢ to defray expenses (considerable trouble collecting).

In 1841 recovered Wm. Robinson's horse, paid \$10 to Milton Carter of Peterboro.

In 1846 voted to borrow money necessary for recovery of Mr. Martin's horse, continuing through 1852 records. From a news item it appears this horse was never recovered.

During the summer of 1874 Orren Bunker's horse disappeared and the society posted a \$25 reward for its return. It was later found dead in pasture.

In 1873 the following appeared in the *N. H. Sentinel*, written no doubt by Dr. George Blake: "The treasury has steadily increased for many years, there being no call for expenditures on account of horse theft or pilfering. The other day there was a nibble at the purse strings. The minds of some of its members have been perplexed with grave questions of law; animated discussions have been held in the committee room, post office, grocery. Webster & Webster have been quoted, Coke & Blackstone consulted. Just now there is a lull in the storm threatening to engulf us, and all this pow-wow was occasioned by the triple transfer of a \$50 horse. Can anything be lost when you know where it is? Can anyone claim to suffer from a larceny when anything is removed from his possession in broad daylight, before his very eyes, and with his knowledge? Can anything be hid that is not concealed? The transaction may be briefly told thus: X purchased a horse of Y and put him in his barn. The following morning Z visits the premises of X and claiming ownership of the horse takes him from the barn in spite of the protestations of X, and driving him to his home puts him in his barn. Y has the money, Z has the horse, X has nothing. X is a member of the detective society and has been one of its riders. He calls upon the president of the society and claiming the privilege of membership represents that the horse has been stolen from his barn and requests that the society find and return same to him. The president looks over his spectacles and refers him to the executive committee. The attorney is consulted who at once decides there is no case for action—nothing to detect, nothing to discover where everything is



known. Not so the committee, the sentiment is divided, the subject gravely discussed in council, by-laws consulted; opinion prevailed that X must apply elsewhere for redress of his grievance. A requisition was then made on the wisdom and official power of the County Solicitor, but he failed to discover felony and was powerless to act."

The following week these corrections were published: "1) The horse was taken with more force and profanity than previously indicated, Z's father clubbing X's dog. The horse was taken in spite of X's protestations. 2) The horse was not put into the barn, but driven off hitched to a sulky and has not been seen since. 3) The president only looked over his spectacles. A writ was issued for the arrest of Z, but the solicitor kept it to 'look over'. It was haying time and X needed his horse. A writ of replevin was issued, but there was trouble over the value, the horse seeming to be worth more than the \$50 paid. Even then, as it is difficult to replevin something that cannot be found, the sheriff was unable to return the horse."

In May 1878 a horse was stolen from Thomas Bellows' barn, recovered by the society in Townshend two days later after advertising the theft.

It is remembered that less than sixty years ago a horse stolen from Russell Graves was recovered by the society, and a harnessed horse with carriage was returned to Wesley Foster.

In 1904 the society offered a reward for the return of a set of wheels and some horse blankets taken from Charles E. Angier's barn.

In 1926 Voted to take the expense (\$28.44) of locating the (Harmon) Watkins horse out of the income, leaving the permanent fund Jan. 1, 1926, as \$1819.18. Harmon Watkins' half-baked hired man had gone off with Harm's horse. When it was located down in Massachusetts the THIEVES went down after him and led him home behind a car. He wasn't worth the cost of bringing him home. This was the last professional business performed by the society.

The original riders and other members must have enjoyed their association for after the conditions that brought about the association had all but disappeared, they still kept the society together, now content to hold a banquet once every two years. Through the years this was held at the old hotels which stood at the corner of Westminster and Main Streets. In more recent years it has been held at the town hall, usually with the Congregational Ladies' Aid serving. The program has included music (Bill Nye, Treva Stowell, etc.) and a speaker (Gov. Samuel D. Felker, Prof. Harold Bruce, Wm. J. English, C. L. Stickney, Judge Chester B. Jordan, George S. Harris, Donald Bodine, Sherman Adams, Douglas Scammon).



An old entry shows 50¢ paid for keeping the speaker's horse (1910). In 1904 it was reported that the meeting night was very cold, but some had driven three to four miles to be present. The toasts, music and speeches seem to have warmed them sufficiently for the homeward trek.

At varying intervals posters were printed on which were listed the officers and members. Originally a woodcut (see Chapter VI illustration) was used for the heading, but this was loaned when an article appeared in *N. H. Profiles* in 1959 and it has not as yet been recovered. These bills were printed on an old hand press.

#### DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The first meeting of Abigail Stearns Chapter was held October 31, 1907 at the house of Mrs. Josiah G. Bellows. Mrs. A. A. Gilson was elected Regent; Mrs. F. A. Spaulding, Vice Regent; Miss Mary Bellows, Secretary; Miss Annie M. Buffum, Treasurer. At the second meeting the following names were considered for the Chapter: Walpole, Abenague, Roger Wolcott, Hannah Kilburn, and Abigail Stearns, wife of Benjamin Bellows, the first person to be buried in the old Walpole Cemetery.

The charter members were the above officers and Miss Amy W. Jennings, Mrs. Everett E. Houghton, Mrs. Charles H. Barnes, Mrs. H. H. Sawyer, Mrs. L. R. Lincoln, Mrs. Josiah H. Graves, Mrs. Susie Jennings, Mrs. J. G. Bellows, Mrs. Ida Burt, Mrs. Lena Cobb, Mrs. Florence Dyer, Mrs. Warren D. Knowlton, Miss Grace Sherman and Mrs. George Sherman. Mrs. Letitia F. Vinal and Miss Helen A. Wotkyns soon became members, if not actually charter members. Mrs. Archie I. Davis was a very early member by transfer from Ashuelot Chapter.

The first year and subsequent years Christmas boxes were packed and sent to the Children's Home at Franklin.

Through the years there have been a colonial party, displays of heirlooms and of shawls, a pageant of pioneer women, a garden party.

In 1911 the Chapter offered a prize for the best school essay on an historical subject, and work was started toward raising funds for a marker at the scene of the Kilburn fight with the Indians, dedicated June 28, 1915. Mrs. Nathan Williams (Annie Buffum), a descendant of John Kilburn, unveiled the marker.

During 1916-18 a great deal of war relief work was done. A dance for returned soldiers was held at the Town Hall, and November 11, 1921 the Soldiers' Marker was unveiled at the Town Hall.

In 1915 a movement was begun toward marking the graves of Revolutionary soldiers. Bronze markers were placed in 1925, forty-one in Wal-



pole; four in Westmoreland. In 1930 some were placed in Carpenter Hill Cemetery, more in 1941. Bronze tablets were placed on the then new bridge at Bellows Falls.

In 1935 the first Good Citizenship Girl was chosen.

Through the years contributions have been made to Kurn Hattin Homes, Ellis Island, American International College, Children's Aid Society, Crossmore, Kate Duncan Smith Project, Blood Plasma Bank, Continental Hall, Valley Forge, Hillside School, Leading Dog School, Blue Ridge.

The following have served as Regent: Mrs. A. A. Gilson 1907-9; Mrs. F. A. Spaulding 1909-11; Miss Mary H. Bellows 1911-14; Mrs. N. W. Holland 1914-16; Mrs. Everett E. Houghton 1916-18; Mrs. L. L. Sawyer 1918-20; Mrs. Charles H. Barnes 1920-22; Mrs. Arthur P. Davis 1922-24; Mrs. H. A. Slade 1924-26; Mrs. John P. Holmes 1926-28; Miss Emily Jennison 1928-30; Mrs. Cary F. Nims 1930-31; Mrs. Marion F. Cahalane 1931-33; Mrs. Jessie C. Dearborn 1933-35; Mrs. Alice H. Burton 1935-37; Mrs. Maud G. Plaisted 1937-39; Miss Fanny Jennison 1939-41; Mrs. Marion K. Bemis 1941-43; Mrs. Carroll Williams 1943-44; Mrs. Marion Weymouth 1944-48; Mrs. Carroll Williams 1948-50; Mrs. Colgate Gilbert 1950-52; Mrs. Harold Foster 1952-54; Mrs. Elmer Putnam 1954-59; Mrs. Ruth Churchill 1959-62; Mrs. Vera Houghton 1962- .

#### AMERICAN LEGION

Post #77 was chartered March 8, 1920, with the following charter members: Burton H. Murray; Bayard T. Mousley, Martin W. Murray, Lawrence G. Cole, Homer Wallace, John H. Williams Jr., Galen Tiffany, Arthur H. Sawyer, Lewis W. Sanford, W. B. Craig, Theodore Cote, Louis J. Goodrich, Maxwell Smalley, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Peck. At first meetings were held irregularly in the homes of the members. The charter was cancelled 1936 due to lack of interest.

The Post was re-chartered August 26, 1940 with the following members: Albert Fletcher, Edward Houghton, Fred T. Stone, R. J. McKenven, Martin Murray, Dr. Niel Stevens, Mrs. E. V. Peck, M. J. Moroney, Colgate Gilbert, Richard C. Graves, Harry G. Russell, Wilfred Trombly, O. J. Hubbard, E. L. Mitchell, R. M. Peck, Homer Wallace, Louis Goodrich.

In 1941 they held their first Memorial Day Program, decorated the graves of veterans and placed a wreath on the Common. In 1942 they placed flag holders on the veterans' graves. Since 1951 they have furnished



color bearers, color guard and speakers at the school program. Cub Scouts now assist in placing the flags on the graves.

They placed a wreath on the Common on Armistice Day during World War II.

On October 11, 1942, they dedicated the flag pole and eagle on the Common, gift of Mr. and Mrs. Copley Amory, now the property of the town.

In August 1941 they constructed a look-out station on the O'Brien place on Watkins Hill, furnishing lights, fuel and plane spotters. They later moved to the Hooper Building, remaining there until no longer needed.

In May 1944 they leased the Firemen's Hall for 99 years, now the Post home on High Street. From 1945 to 1954 they owned what had been the Mousley property on Main Street and occupied it as a Legion Home.

In 1946 Alfred Hoyt, one of the founders of the American Legion in Paris in 1919, became a member of this Post. In 1948 he presented them with a flag flown over the Capitol in Washington.

In 1946 the Legion sponsored a Boy Scout Troop, later helped them fix up a clubhouse.

In 1948 they began sponsoring boys to Boys' State from Walpole and North Walpole, New Hampshire and Vermont.

In 1961 the name was changed to Bridge-Wilson Post #77.

The Post has received special recognition for membership 1947, 1953, 1960, 1961, Child Welfare Work 1955-6, 1958-9, Americanism 1947-8, War Bond Sales 1945.

The Commander is now James Burrows, the Adjutant Robert Davis.

#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY by Annie M. Goodrich, Secretary

The American Legion Auxiliary #77 of Walpole, N. H., was organized June 28, 1926, at the home of Mrs. Thomas Murray by Mrs. Robert Walbridge, Dept. President of Peterboro. Charter members were Mrs. Chester Alden, Mrs. Reginald Cahalane, Miss Easter Mousley, Mrs. Thomas Graves, Mrs. Martin Murray, Mrs. Raymond Phipps, Mrs. Leila L. Sawyer and Mrs. William Slade Jr. The following officers: Mrs. Cahalane, President; Mrs. Martin Murray, First Vice President; Miss Easter Mousley, 2nd Vice President; Chaplain, Mrs. Thomas Murray; Historian, Mrs. William Slade; Secretary, Miss Grace Graves; Treasurer, Mrs. L. L. Sawyer; and Sgt. at Arms, Mrs. Chester Alden.

Meetings were held twice monthly.

The Auxiliary disbanded June 5, 1929, and a new Charter was granted



November 12, 1940, charter members being Mrs. Myra Tucker, Mrs. Emma Peck, Mrs. Geraldine Murray, Mrs. Lena Fletcher, Mrs. Edna Houghton, Mrs. Emma McKeven, Mrs. Gertrude Podwin, Mrs. Annie Goodrich, Mrs. Lillian Gilmet, Mrs. Jennie Murray, Mrs. Dorothy Houghton, Miss Lorine Houghton, Mrs. Gertrude Wallace, and Mrs. Celestine Hewitt. This was overseered by Mrs. Ray H. Rollins, District Director of Keene.

Meetings have been held at the various homes (and still are), the Firemen's Hall on High Street, and the Legion Home on Main Street.

The Presidents of the Auxiliary have been Mrs. Marion Cahalane, Mrs. Gertrude Wallace, Mrs. Emma Peck, Mrs. Myra Tucker, Mrs. Annie Goodrich, Mrs. Edna Houghton, Mrs. Lena Fletcher, Mrs. Lila Barrett, Mrs. Mildred Fennessey, Mrs. Lottie Mathers, Mrs. June Hildreth and Miss Carmen Kenyon.

The Auxiliary has a poppy sale each year which is used for child welfare of veterans' families and rehabilitation of veterans.

They also are actively interested in Community Service, National Security, Scholarships, Civil Defense, Education, Pan-American Study, and each year sponsor a delegate to Girls' State.

On March 29, 1961, a new Permanent Charter was issued under the name of Bridge-Wilson Post #77. The officers for 1962 are President Carmen Kenyon; Vice President Marilyn Blake; Secretary and Treasurer Annie Goodrich; Historian Lottie Mathers; Chaplain Frances Burrows; Sgt. at Arms Barbara Aldrich.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month.

#### WALPOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It would seem surprising that in a town so mindful of its history no action was taken to form a historical society until 1930. Then it came about from force of circumstances. In August of that year the rumor spread that one of the prettiest corners in the town might be bought by an oil company for a filling station. This corner, in the "Y" between North Main and Turnpike Streets was occupied by the town's oldest gambrel roofed house and a picturesque little building that was once a boot and shoe shop.

Anxiety and concern were widespread. As usual in such circumstances a few energetic, interested people moved to action. The Rev. Robert M. L. Holt of the Unitarian Church telephoned Mrs. Thorndike H. Endicott in Boston. Her unfailing interest in Walpole and her indomitable spirit gave assurance that in some way funds could be found to save the



property from commercial use. Until money could be raised she suggested that it might be borrowed. Through the interest and help of Dwight W. Harris, Treasurer of the Savings Bank of Walpole, a loan was arranged and the property purchased.

This marked the beginning of the Walpole Historical Society. On August 11, 1930, the first meeting of the incorporators was held at the Savings Bank of Walpole, called to order by Dwight W. Harris. Bylaws were adopted and a public meeting was scheduled for August 18, 1930 at the Bridge Memorial Library. At the public meeting the following officers and directors were elected: President, Arthur P. Davis; Vice President, Rev. Robert M. L. Holt; Clerk, Mary Bellows Quincy; Treasurer, Herbert R. Tucker; Directors, Mary Bates, Fanny P. Mason, Margaret McG. Sparhawk, Langdon Bellows, Ellen B. Endicott, Andrew R. Butler, Agnes C. Bunker, Mrs. C. P. Howland, Mrs. Robert A. Hubbard, Hermon O. Woodward, Charles H. Barnes, Dwight W. Harris.

Incorporation under the laws of the State of New Hampshire was accomplished.

The property at Turnpike and North Main Streets was retained by the Society until 1948. At that time the rooms available to the Society were not fully adequate for the growing collection. In addition, the problems of landlord, the house being rented, became onerous. Mrs. Mabel Cole bought the property. The proceeds of the sale were set aside until a suitable home for the Society's collection could be found.

In June of 1950 it was learned that the Walpole Academy building, until then in use as a high school, was to be sold at auction. It was said that one prospective buyer intended to use the grounds for house lots. A meeting of the Historical Society was called and all interested townspeople were invited to attend. Once again Mrs. Endicott urged that something be done to save an historic building with its long sloping lawn to Main Street. She suggested it as a museum for the Society and it was voted to try to obtain the Academy for that purpose.

September 2, 1950, was the auction day and a large gallery gathered on the Academy grounds. Mr. F. Dana Hooper, appointed to bid for the Society, in good voice and good courage, carried on the bidding until it was knocked down to the Society for \$8000. The Society had a new home, but at a far higher figure than had been planned. Messrs. Arthur H. Bunker, Austin I. Hubbard and Samuel A. Lewis most generously provided substantial financial aid to make the purchase possible.

At this writing, twelve years later, what appeared to be a vast expanse



of room for future collections is filled. The Academy, through the generosity of townspeople, descendants of former residents and friends, has acquired a good collection of furniture, utensils, artifacts, books, early records and art objects. Outstanding is its collection of old costumes and apparel, ranging in style over a century and a half.

The history of a society is the history of the devoted people who have given of their time, energy, talents and money to make their ideals come to being. No list of them can ever be complete. There is scarcely a family in town which has not helped in some way. Yet some stand out.

The dedicated service of two curators, Mrs. A. M. Bragg and Mr. Herbert R. Tucker, has made noteworthy exhibits of the many gifts to the Society. Mrs. Thorndike H. Endicott, interested and active as a director in almost all phases of the Society's work has been especially notable for fund raising activity. Mrs. Guy H. Bemis, as president and a director, has been tireless in efficient management of various displays, dinners and the collections. Mrs. Edward L. Cutter, an officer and director for many years, has helped everyone in many ways. Mrs. Robert A. Hubbard, in charge of Ways and Means for the first seven years of the Society and President for eight years, gave generously of herself in those difficult starting years. Pageants, teas and exhibitions run by her, not only kept the Society in the town's consciousness but provided the funds for existence during the early and the war years. Mr. Herbert R. Tucker's good work has been sustained for over 32 years, occupying almost every office in the Society.

The presidents of the Walpole Historical Society and their tenure are listed below.

Mr. Arthur P. Davis	1930-1937
Miss Emily M. Jennison	1937-1938
Mrs. Robert A. Hubbard	1938-1946
Mr. Donald E. Hubbard	1946-1948
Dr. Charles Houghton	1948-1949
Mr. Herbert R. Tucker	1949-1952
Miss Jessie M. Graves	1952-1954
Mrs. Guy H. Bemis	1954-1958
Mr. Stephen B. Williams	1958-1959
Mrs. Howard S. Andros	1959-1961
Mr. Donald H. Spitzli	1961-

#### THE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY CLUB OF WALPOLE (N.P. CLUB)

This club began several years before the outbreak of World War I. It started when Mrs. Herbert Smith, who lived on a farm outside of Wal-



pole Village, invited a few neighbors to her home for an afternoon of sociability and sewing. This affair was enjoyed so much that they decided to meet every two weeks, bringing their own sewing and refreshments and spend a few hours together.

The group consisted of Mrs. Will Leonard, Mrs. Warren Kingsbury, Mrs. Warren Thompson, Mrs. John Graves, Mrs. Orrin Ramsay, Mrs. Rose Glynn and Mrs. Daniel Clark.

During World War I these women, with many new members added, devoted themselves wholeheartedly to war work. Knitting for local men in service was done, bandages, blouses and dresses for refugees and many articles for the Red Cross were made. Small dues were assessed on each member to provide the necessities for this work and from that time (1917) records were kept.

After the war the club continued sewing for refugees and needy French babies and also did much for local institutions, such as the District Nurse, Keene Hospital, Rockingham Hospital, Franklin Home, Near East Relief, Mousley Hospital, Mothers' Club of Community Health Center of Boston, Daniel Webster Home, Warner Home, Vermont Orphans' Home, Second World War Relief and Kurn Hattin Homes. Mrs. Albert Dickey was for many years in charge of the sewing and did much to prepare work for the meetings and to finish the various projects.

In addition to the sewing, the Club has contributed to many local projects—the School Nurse, Community Christmas Tree, Infantile Paralysis Fund, Marlow-Stoddard Fire Relief, School Library, American Legion, Pre-school Clinic and the Red Cross.

The N. P. Club, as it is known, has kept the name chosen by that small group so many years ago, and still meets, with few exceptions, every two weeks. Since 1917, it has been entirely charitable in purpose and though comparatively small in numbers and limited in funds, the record shows that it has accomplished much.

WALPOLE GRANGE #125 by Vera F. Kenrick

Mr. E. C. Hutchinson, Milford, New Hampshire, State General Deputy, organized Walpole Grange #125—Patrons of Husbandry—December 15, 1887, after securing the required number (30) of farmer signatures.

The officers elected at that time: Master, Alvin Dwinell; Overseer, Charles H. Barnes; Lecturer, Edwin Guild; Steward, Willis Foster; Assistant Steward, J. B. Russell, Jr.; Chaplain, Warren Thompson; Treasurer, George R. Jennison; Secretary, A. C. Dickey; Gatekeeper, Norman



Guild; Pomona, Mrs. Edwin Guild; Flora, Mrs. George R. Jennison; Ceres, Mrs. George Patten; Lady Assistant Steward, Mrs. Willis Foster.

All officers were duly installed at that date, except Ceres and the Secretary, in the Academy Building (present Historical Building). Here they held most of their meetings using the furniture of the Lodge of Good Templars. Members served as janitor, splitting kindling and furnishing their own kerosene lamps. In 1897 the Grange had outgrown the Academy Building and moved into the Lower Town Hall. They have held their meetings there regularly except from June 1917 to August 1918 due to the disastrous fire in Town Hall in 1917.

The Walpole Grange was affiliated with the Cheshire Pomona. In 1951 Cheshire County Pomona was redistricted because of large membership and the distance for some of the Grange to travel to the meetings. Two districts were formed, the Monadnock in the southern part of the state and the Cold River Valley in the northern part of which Walpole Grange is a member.

Programs consisted of Agricultural essays and discussions, also vocal and instrumental music; an organ for accompaniment. In 1904 a question to be discussed was for a law regulating automobiles on the public roads.

Scholarships were granted from the Subordinate and Pomona Grange to the New Hampshire College of Agriculture (Cow College) of Durham, New Hampshire, even before it was the University of New Hampshire.

The Secretary and Treasurer were first bonded in 1916. All ledgers for Grange meetings are complete from December 15th to the present date and can be found in Walpole Savings Bank.

Walpole Grange approved of the U. S. Food Administration of World War I. No refreshments were served on Children's Day in 1918 due to war conditions.

First woman to serve as Master was Mrs. Lucy Davis in 1922.

In 1922 a penny collection was voted to be taken at each meeting and to be used by Chaplain for the sick.

Dances have been sponsored by the Grange to raise money for such purposes as to help repair the Grange Hall on Eastern States Exposition grounds following the hurricane; British Aid Benefit 1941; Red Cross; Stoddard, N. H., fire; Christmas Tree Fund and Student Loan.

The Home Economics Committee have collected eyeglasses for "Eyes for Needy"; sent a high school girl to Girls' State; paid the servicemen's dues during their war service.

Today the Grange allows people of all occupations to join the organization and tries to aid Community projects.



## WALPOLE LIONS CLUB

The Club was organized by Mr. James Mills, a representative from the Lions International, chartered March 16, 1954, at the Walpole Inn with one of the largest memberships in the State of New Hampshire.

The main purpose of the Club is eyesight conservation. The Club cooperates with the School Nurse and local doctors in helping any needy person acquire glasses or eye treatment. All expenses for this purpose are earned by Fund Raising Projects put on by the Club.

## RUTH KILBURN REBEKAH LODGE #89

On January 11, 1905, in the hall of Mt. Kilburn Lodge #102 in the old hotel that stood where the Post Office is today, Ruth Kilburn Rebekah Lodge #89 was instituted by the Grand Master, Charles L. Emerson, assisted by other Grand Lodge officers. The Grand Secretary called the roll of members who had petitioned for a Charter. The list comprised sixteen names as follows: Henry A. Slade, Agnes Slade, Royal M. Marden, Mary E. Marden, Samuel M. Seabury, Lina F. Seabury, Edward J. Snow, Lora A. Snow, John W. Prentiss, Katie N. Prentiss, Fred A. Ramsay, Mary Ramsay, Willie G. Leonard, Clara E. Leonard, Jennie A. Hawks and Alice M. Kingsbury. Of the sixteen Charter Members Sister Mary Marden is still a member in good standing of this Lodge.

Election of officers resulted as follows: Noble Grand, Agnes Slade; Vice Grand, Alice Kingsbury; Recording Secretary, Lina Seabury; Financial Secretary, Katie Prentiss; Treasurer, Lora Snow; Trustees, Jennie Hawks, Ed J. Snow, Clara Leonard. Twenty-three applications were presented and acted upon. The evening session was called to order at 8:00 P.M. The Grand Master announced the Degree staff of Oasis Rebekah Lodge #80 of Alstead would confer the degree upon the candidates of the new Lodge. Following came the Installation of Officers by District Deputy President Catherine Fox and staff of Marlow.

As facilities for getting meals were not available in the hall, box suppers were held.

In 1916 the Odd Fellows purchased the hall on Turnpike Street and Ruth Kilburn Lodge moved in with them. The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs held many dances, card parties and suppers. In October 1961 the Rebekahs were told that the Fire Marshal had condemned the building and they would have to find another place to meet, so the Rebekahs moved into the Town Hall.

In October 1961 the following officers were installed by District Deputy



President Yavonne D. Britton and staff of the Walpole Lodge: Noble Grand, Annie Goodrich; Vice Grand, Carmen Kenyon; Recording Secretary, Yavonne D. Britton; Financial Secretary, Marion Nowers; Treasurer, Alice Shattuck; Chaplain, Etta Harlow; Warden, Helen Enman; Conductor, Helen Gilman; R.S.N.G., Esther Houghton; L.S.N.G., Greta Jameson; R.S.V.G., Lola St. George; L.S.V.G., Ruth Barry; Inside Guard, Carola Graves; Outside Guard, Louis Goodrich; Color Bearer, Helen Graves; Jr. Past N.G., Nancy Christian and Musician, Lillian Smith.

#### HOMESTEAD GOLF CLUB by Russell Hastings

Golf was introduced to Walpole through the organization of the Homestead Golf Club in July 1898, with Copley Amory, President; John H. Williams of Bellows Falls, Secretary and Treasurer; and Mrs. S. L. M. Post, Member of Executive Committee. The booklet published at the time tells us the links were located "On the West side of the 'Valley Road' about one mile from Walpole Village." They were on the upper part of the Amory pastures where the grazing of both cows and sheep had created favorable conditions for their construction. The Club House was designed and constructed by T. Nelson Hastings and dedicated to the Club on Nov. 24, 1899. The reservoir on the property was constructed a few years later by Mr. Amory to provide more adequate fire protection for his rather extensive farm buildings down on the lower road.

It can be said that the club operated successfully until 1914 when it became necessary to surrender the use of the land to its owner who had been leasing it to the club for a nominal fee of "\$1 a year". Being unable to find land suitable for another golf links, the Golf Club was dissolved and the Walpole Country Club undertook the moving of the club house to a new site about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile south of the village on the property of Hudson E. Bridge. To move the building to its new location over narrow roads and through the village streets, it was sawed into several sections which were then reassembled on the site. With its two new tennis courts and its social gatherings the club enjoyed a successful career for about twelve years when it was again decided to make a major change and join forces with the new Hooper Golf Club at the head of Prospect Hill. The old club house was sold in 1926 to its present owner Russell Hastings who at the same time purchased the land on which it stood.

#### HOOPER GOLF CLUB by John A. Hubbard, Secretary-Treasurer 1962

The Hooper Golf Club was formed June 26, 1926, at a meeting held at the Walpole Inn. The officers elected were President, Raymond



Bunker; First Vice President, John H. O'Brien; Second Vice President, Dwight W. Harris; Secretary-Treasurer, Reginald Cahalane.

It was voted to name the organization Hooper Golf Club of Walpole in honor of Mr. and Mrs. George L. Hooper, late of Walpole, who willed to the Town of Walpole a tract of land known as Meeting House Hill Farm.

The amount of authorized capital stock was \$25,000 divided into shares of the par value of \$25.

The Club proposed at this time to lease part of the Meeting House Hill Farm for the construction of a golf course. This proposal was presented to the Selectmen of the Town of Walpole, who called a special meeting July 10, 1926, and voted to accept the proposal.

Wayne E. Stiles of Boston was hired as the architect and the greens were to be constructed by Italian workmen under the direction of Jake DiPucchis. Local labor under the direction of C. S. Bain constructed the fairways.

On August 28, 1926, the Articles of Agreement were signed. Those signing were R. U. Bunker, John H. O'Brien, Dwight W. Harris, Reginald Cahalane, Arthur P. Davis, Clarence W. Houghton, Susie B. Flint, and G. F. Wilson. A tentative schedule of membership rates was adopted and a loan was secured from the Savings Bank of Walpole to meet current expenses. On September 9, 1926, Mr. Lewis Wright was engaged as caretaker and greenskeeper for the Club. On May 6, 1927, it was voted to permit the townspeople of Walpole to use the golf course for regular greens fees. Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Cahalane were engaged to run the Club House which was the old Watkins Tavern at the top of Prospect Hill.

On July 2, 1927, at 10 A.M. the golf course was officially opened. Mr. F. B. Allen drove the first ball followed by President Raymond Bunker. A supper was served to 130 guests with dancing following for the evening.

The Bylaws and Constitution, drawn up by a committee of Mr. Francis B. Allen and Mr. George S. Harris, were approved at the August 1935 annual meeting.

In 1932, through the will of Charles N. Vilas of Alstead, the Club was left \$5000 which was voted to be used to reduce the indebtedness of the Club.

Through the efforts of C. A. Bellows in 1938 an amount of \$3250 was raised through subscription. This was used to reduce the debt.

During the period of 1957 to 1962 the Club has grown in the number of members and operated at a profit, many people from Keene joining the Club.



In August 1959 it was voted to amend Article 2 of the Bylaws for tax exemption purposes. This changed the Club to a non-profit organization, paying no dividends to its stockholders.

The following have served as president: Raymond U. Bunker 1926; Dwight W. Harris 1937; Arthur H. Bunker 1940; H. J. Nichols 1946; Holmes Whitmore 1950; S. Trafford Hicks Jr. 1954; George R. Harris 1957; Stephen Williams 1958; Thomas Turner 1960; Albert P. Oot 1962.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS by Everett E. Houghton

In the spring of 1904 several residents of the Town of Walpole, who were members of the I.O.O.F., decided to see if there were enough men interested in forming a Lodge in Walpole. These original members became the Charter Members of the new Lodge. They were: William Galloway, John W. Prentiss, Sr., John Taggard, Royal Harden, Frank Spaulding, Carl Smith, Henry Slade, Ralph Slade, James Snow, Edward Snow, John Warren, Thomas O'Brien, Eugene Smith and Albert Brigham.

On the 14th day of July, 1904, at 3:30 p.m., a meeting was called to order by the Grand Officers of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of New Hampshire for the purpose of Instituting a Lodge in Walpole. This was to be known as Mt. Kilburn Lodge, No. 102, of Walpole, N. H. There were presented at this time forty applications for membership and all, being 21 years of age and residents of the town, were found eligible. The degrees were exemplified by the two neighboring lodges, Bellows Falls No. 23 and Anchor Lodge No. 96 of Alstead who were sponsors of the local lodge. When the last man had received the third degree, the meeting was closed in form at 4:15 a.m., July 15th. With the exception of giving the men time to go home to milk and do chores, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., the meeting was open from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 a.m. A lengthy meeting of any kind!

The first meetings were held in the Town Hall, but during the year 1906 the Lodge moved to the second floor of the old Shirt Factory. The Lodge bought this building in 1916 from Michael W. Murray of Newtonville, Mass. Meetings in the early days were quite lively and very lengthy. Several times they lasted until 3:00 a.m. These men took everything they did seriously. They lived by the rules of the Lodge. Any member who did not live as he should was brought before the Lodge to account for his actions. The ideals were, and still are, of the highest.

From the first meeting until the time of the first World War, the Lodge prospered. The heavy duties at that time seem to have caused the



Lodge to have a hard time keeping members interested. The older members worked hard and, after the War in the late 20's and early 30's Mt. Kilburn Lodge made itself again an order of goodly size. These men are no longer with us; they were devoted to the order and loved and respected by the people of Walpole. Such men of character and stature leave a void that the present generation cannot fill and may never achieve again. They lived at a time when elders were respected and consulted; when there was always someone who needed help and some who cared enough to give it. Some of the Walpole members of the Odd Fellows who met these qualifications were: Warren D. Knowlton, Frank A. Spaulding, William A. Galloway, John W. Prentiss Sr., Russell G. Graves, Fred A. Ramsay, Charles Seward, William Fletcher and Albert Brigham.

The Odd Fellows have had at times nearly 100 members and at other times as few as 20. At this time there seems very little hope that the Lodge can survive for long. There are but a few members left.

#### WALPOLE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The Walpole P.T.A. was established as a branch of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers in 1948. Mr. Holmes Whitmore was the first president. From the beginning the Association has met the first Monday evening of each month of the school year. The Association membership grew to 200 by 1951. At this time the Association averages about 175 members.

In its 15 years the P.T.A. has done many fine things for the school and community and for which many people have worked hard on fund-raising projects. One of the first of these was the public address system with radio and phonograph for the present High School soon after it opened. To raise the \$2,000.00 needed for this project a community auction was held.

Prior to this large project, the Association had brought the Welch Male Choir to Walpole, using some of the proceeds from this to purchase seven cheer-leader uniforms.

The following are some of the projects which the P.T.A. has helped sponsor and finance: playground equipment, a piano fund at the school, the Community Recreation Council, a Boy Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack, instruments and equipment for the school music department, and books for the school library.

To raise money for these projects the Dartmouth Glee Club was brought to Walpole in April of 1952, a community minstrel show was sponsored, a food and rummage sale was staged, a radio-TV show with



Carl Webster Pierce was sponsored and, also in 1955 and 1956 Mrs. Charles Houghton conducted Pop Concerts to augment the music department fund.

Since 1958 all funds have been raised through the P.T.A. Community-Birthday Calendar which realizes about \$350 annually.

However, although these projects have taken much time and energy of the P.T.A. members, another feature of the Association is as important. The programs offered at the monthly meetings are of great interest and value. Some most excellent programs have been presented to the membership by our own teachers and some by specialists in the fields of reading, mental health, and guidance, to mention but a few. Very important to the parents have been the programs on planning for the Walpole School development, presented by School Board members from time to time, and new developments in education in New Hampshire, presented by people from the State Board of Education.

#### MASONS

Columbian Lodge #53 was established June 13, 1827. Sometime later the charter was surrendered until 1861 when it was applied for by Dr. Jesseniah Kittredge, William Mitchell, Jacob B. Burnham, Dr. Hiram Wotkyns and 16 others. It lasted for some years.

#### GOOD TEMPLARS

On March 21, 1876 23 citizens organized a Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars (IOGT) and met weekly for some years. The group was very active with a Dramatic Association, a class in Oratory, a Literary and Debating Club.

#### OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

In April 1874 an Anglers' Club was organized, its object the "enforcement of the laws for the protection of fish and promotion of good fellowship and true sportsmanlike feeling among its members." In 1875 the officers were President E. W. Barker, Vice President Josiah G. Bellows, Secretary-Treasurer E. K. Seabury. In October 1930 an Izaak Walton League chapter was organized with 60 members.

In 1913 a Girls' Basketball Club was formed, the officers: President Langdon Bellows, Vice President Lila Pierce, Secretary Minnie Hathaway, Treasurer Mrs. John McLeod.

In 1916 there was a Thimble Club on the River Road. They were meeting in the evening, enjoying entertainments with as many as 35



present. They were sure of a good time whenever Edna Ingham entertained.

January 8, 1920 a Board of Trade was organized with Dr. Mousley as president, R. M. Peck as secretary, Fred Metcalf as treasurer.

In November 1923 an Outing Club for the purpose of furthering winter sports was organized. The officers were President Dr. Bayard T. Mousley, Vice President Roy Peck, Secretary Rev. Robert M. Holt, Treasurer Fred A. Metcalf; Executive Committee Oliver Hubbard, W. J. English, George E. Wheeler, Reginald Cahalane, L. C. Fisher. Sixty-eight joined and plans were made for building a ski jump and toboggan slide in Russell Graves' field east of North Main Street.

In June 1930 the New Hampshire Horse Association was formed with plans for maps showing various marked saddle routes, a horse auto to transport horses and horse shows.

In 1933 the Walpole Associates were incorporated to further recreational activities with President Oliver Hubbard, Vice President Reginald Cahalane, Treasurer Dana Knowlton, Secretary Donald Macnaughtan, Director Austin Hubbard.

In May 1933 a Young Men's Sporting & Outing Club was formed for target shooting, etc. The officers were President Lyle Jeffrey, Vice President Elliot Woodward, Secretary-Treasurer David Holt. In June 1936 the Peep O'Day Gun Club was organized, with a new field house on the Drewsville Road in 1937.

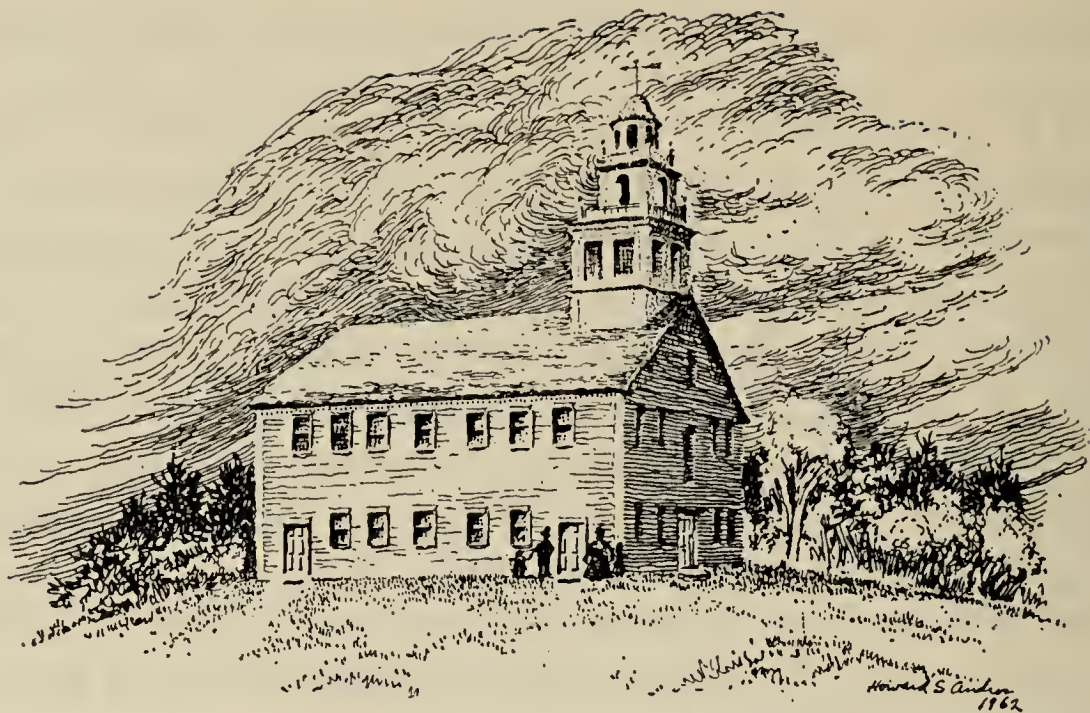
In September 1935 the North Walpole Social Club was formed for social, physical and mental betterment of the young men of the town, the club room to be open evenings to members only, for library, bridge, etc. The first club house burned, was replaced in 1940.

In 1936 Walpole people were attending the Townsend Club meetings at Bellows Falls.

In March 1934 the Hooper Chapter of Future Farmers of America was organized. In 1938 the out-of-school young men organized the Agricultural Enthusiasts of Walpole and met for discussion of agricultural subjects.

In February 1945 the women of North Walpole formed a Community Club with President Mrs. Amy Godsoe, Vice President Miss Mary Lindstrom, Secretary Mrs. Kathryn K. Cray, Treasurer Miss Alice Kennedy, Advisory Board Mrs. Julia Costin, Mrs. Marion Reardon, Mrs. Margaret Lindstrom. The purpose was "to create interest in civic affairs of the village and to raise a fund to be used for those who have seen service in the armed forces."





*First Prospect Hill Meetinghouse*

## Chapter VII

### CHURCH HISTORY

**E**ARLY MEETINGS of the settlers, for both business and worship, were held at the fort of Benjamin Bellows, Esq. At the March meeting in 1761 it was voted “That the Inhabitants meet at the Fort or nearby on Lord’s Day” and “That Benjamin Bellows Esq provide seats and other conveniences for said purpose.” In the fall it was voted “to meet at the house of Mr. Ephraim Baldwin the Lord’s Day and chose . . . a committee to see Things Properly Fixed for to meet in.” It was also voted at the same meeting “to pay for fixing a Place to meet in and to be for the use of the Town.”

This first “meeting house was located just in front of John W. Hayward’s wood house (#39) and the pulpit was over where now is a well of the purest water to be found in town” (*AH* 33)—at the head of North Main Street, west side.

Apparently the meeting house, “raised” in 1761, was not ready for occupancy until late in 1764, since meetings in 1763 and 1764 were held at the houses of Mr. Asa Baldwin and Mr. Jeremiah Phelps, respectively, when more money was raised for the construction. Even then the building was not complete, and for the next twenty years there were recurring votes in regard to finishing the meeting house.

In 1769 it was voted “that those men that have paid toward building



the meeting house and have the pews Finish the walls of the meeting house up as far as the girt of said house and that the highest payer toward building the meeting house with adding what he hath paid on real estate since the rate was laid on each man according to his estate being added. The highest payer take the first choice and so on till all the pews is taken up." In 1770 the Plan of the Pews was accepted and the drawing took place in April.

In 1772 £4 was appropriated to build the body seats (more votes later about finishing "workmanlike") and £3 to hang the doors and "sett the glass in two windows and other necessities."

In 1773 James Russell, maltster, was allowed "12 shillings for sweeping the meeting house for two years past" and again in 1776. (He lived nearby, to the south.)

By 1783 there was agitation to finish the meeting house or build elsewhere. In 1785 £300 was appropriated to finish the meeting house, but later reconsidered. Late the same year it was voted to build a new meeting house on land of Thomas Sparhawk opposite Mr. Baldwin's but this also was reconsidered.

It was again voted to finish "where it now stands" and the Proprietors of the pews to give up their rights in the pews, or the amount of money they would bring, to raise funds for the finishing; also to build a porch at the west end, a porch and steeple at the east end, a tier of pews around the galleries upon the wall and twelve pews "where the seats now are and that the Six Front Pews be reserved for Elderly People. . . ."

However, at the March 1786 meeting it was voted to build a new meeting house near the house of Antipas Harrington (on Prospect Hill) who with John Jenison gave four acres of land for the purpose. Col. John Bellows, Capt. John Jenison, Lt. Aaron Allen, Lt. Amasa Allen and Lt. Isaac Bundy were elected a committee to "Draw a Plan for the New Meeting House and Provide Stuff for and Build said House and sell the pews" to raise money for construction.

At a meeting April 24 the meeting house plan exhibited by the committee was accepted, a plan of paying for the pews in installments adopted and the pews sold, 61 on the lower floor and 27 in the gallery. Later it was voted to make pews where the body seats were proposed. In May a committee was elected "to provide dinner for the Persons who shall be appointed to raise the meeting house." In September it was voted to build a steeple, but in 1789 voted to build a dome instead of a steeple. (Judge Bellows wrote of the old church being denuded of its graceful spire.)



Construction continued in 1788, 1789, 1790 when there was some financial difficulty between the town and the building committee. In 1792 £60 was appropriated to complete and paint the outside straw color.

Alexander Watkins was elected to take care of the meeting house, to sweep the floor and take care of the doors. Later John Knapp was elected to the same responsibility. In 1791 Asa Gage and Nicanor Townsley was elected to keep dogs out of the meeting house on Sabbath Days and there was an article in the warrant "To see if the Town will come into any method to Prevent Sheep Lying around the New Meeting House." This problem was not immediately solved, nor was that of trespassing neat stock.

The church was called "The Church in Walpole" and the members subscribed to the following covenant which was renewed after the church records were burned in 1771 (the following is all in the same handwriting evidently Fessenden's):

"We whose names are hereafter subscribed inhabitants of Walpole in New Hampshire, do now incorporate ourselves into a Church State, renewing our Covenant with God the Father, and with the Son, and with the Holy Ghost, and with one another, admiring the exceeding riches of that grace which admits us to so high a privilege as to confederate with God, we chearfully lay hold of the covenant, depending on divine assistance to enable us to continue steadfast therein.

"First We profess our hearty belief of the divinity of the Christian Religion as contained in the holy Scriptures, and engage to make that form of sound words our only rule of faith, worship and none in opposition to, an exclusive of the new found inventions of men.

"2dly We promise (divine grace assisting) to honour each divine person in the Christian Trinity, into whose name we were baptized according the directions and injunctions of Scripture, and therefore profess our faith in God the Father, and choose the God of all grace to be our God. We also profess our faith in the only begotten Son of God, the only Mediator, Saviour, and Head of the Church; and choose him to be our Prophet, Priest and King. We believe in the eternal Spirit, and choose him to be our sanctifier, and Comforter; and under the influence of principles we resolve to live sober, righteous, and godly lives in this present world, walking in all the commandments and observing all the influence of the gospel as God shall make our duty known to us.

"3dly We promise (Devine grace helping us) to walk in communion with the church of Christ in this place so long as God shall continue us joining in the respective parts of publick worship, and in the use of both the sacraments of the gospel, viz baptism and the Lord's Supper.

"4 We engage to worship God in our families, to offer our infant son to him in baptism, to bring up our children and servants all under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, Instructing them in the principles of the Christian religion, until they are trained up to a meekness for recognizing their baptismal covenant, and taking the solemn bonds upon themselves. Lastly in the name of the Lord our righteousness and strength, We engage to walk in wisdom towards them without the Church



and in charity towards them within, watchfully avoiding contentions and sinful stumbling blocks, and submitting to the holy discipline of Christ's kingdom. (in that view of it which is exhibited in Cambridge platform according to the custom of the congregational Churches in New England) not divulging private faults irregularly, bearing with the weak, admonishing and conferring the disorderly, and forgiving the penitent thus endeavouring our mutual edification—These things we promise and engage before God angels and men, praying the God of peace to prepare and strengthen us to do his will, in every good works, working in us that which is well pleasing in his sight; to whom be glory in the church of Jesus Christ—Amen—

“Signed Thos. Fessenden Pastor Elect,

Paul Denison

John Marcy

Lemuel Holmes

Sam<sup>l</sup> Trott

John Kilburn Jun<sup>r</sup>

Timothy Delano

Nath<sup>l</sup> Hovey

Coll. Benj<sup>m</sup> Bellows

John Graves

John Pamele

Wm. Smeed

Jona<sup>n</sup> Hall

James Bundy

Joseph Barnett

members in the former pastors day signed afterwards with the Chh's consent The wives of the following were of the Church—Of Coll. Bellows, John Graves, James Bundy, Joseph Barrett, John Pamele, Wm. Smeed, Dan<sup>l</sup> Denison, Lemuel Holmes, Sam<sup>l</sup> Trott, and John Kilburn Jr. Numb 25”

“The members were very strict in the observance of the Sabbath and the Sanctuary.” None were to have their children baptized by a mere owning of their covenant, but if they had the same privilege in another church where they had owned their covenant and brought testimonials to that effect, and so long as they gave evidence of their being conscientious in their scruples and were endeavoring to remove them, they might be admitted. All residing in Walpole had to bring their membership within one year or give satisfactory reason for neglect.

The members looked after “the misdoings of each other with assiduous care and concern, as will appear by the following transactions of the church. It appears that one Isaac Johnson was in the habit of taking too much ‘for the stomach’s sake’, and James Bundy felt disturbed. The transaction reads thus: ‘Nov. 18, 1769, James Bundy complained of Isaac Johnson for intemperate drinking—supported. Voted that he be suspended from spiritual privileges until he makes satisfaction.’ He appeared, made confession, and was restored to fellowship. Another occasion, Oct. 11, 1770, Nathan Bundy complained of Isaac Stowell: ‘As guilty of falsehood and theft, wherein, he also himself, was an accomplice—Voted to suspend both till it appears which is criminal. They afterwards made satisfaction and are restored’.” (AH)

Dec. 2, 1787, Deacons Brown and Farnham were elected “a committee



to enquire of Jonathan Hall jun why he absents himself from publick worship and the Lord's Table." April 10 the committee reported that he said "his circumstances were the cause of his absence and sometimes his family was a hindrance—But he had no objection against the Chh or Pastor etc." The report was voted not satisfactory, and that Deacon Farnham acquaint him with this vote. At the same time it was voted that every Sacramental Lecture be a standing church meeting. June 4, 1788 Parson Fessenden sent Mr. Hall an official admonition for neglect of duty as to public worship and attendance on the Lord's Supper. "Every member of the church who committed any irregularities inconsistent with its discipline, whatever its nature, or whether male or female, was required to make open confession at the preparatory lecture before communion." (AH 132)

One of the many baptisms recorded by Thos. Fessenden in the Church records is "June 14, 1778, Barnabas, negro child belonging to Thos. Sparhawk esq."

Provision was made for the Lord's Table by assessments, in 1768 one shilling per "pole", in 1772 "such as neglected to pay their church tax to be suspended." In 1777 Col. Benjamin Bellows was to make the provision, in 1778 voted "a peck of wheat or money equivalent per pole," Isaac Bundy and Jonathan Hall jun, the collectors. In 1779 two dollars per pole was to clear up arrearages and provide more vessels, and in 1787 an additional contribution for a table cloth.

The first mention of music "is found in the old church records, where Thomas Sparhawk was chosen to set the psalms in 1771. According to tradition the 'setting' of the psalms devolved upon the deacons, but sometimes deacons would be chosen who had no musical cultivation, when some other person was selected who had a musical ear. The setting consisted in reading one verse of a stanza by the deacon, and then giving the key or pitch of the tune to be sung, which was called 'deaconing the psalm'. In 1779 Roger and Eben Farnham were chosen to 'set' the psalms. Church music for hymns and psalms was in its infancy at that time . . . but a little later Billings, Swan and Reed published tunes for lyric verse, many of which were called '*fugue*', the different parts of the score of which follow in succession—the bass leading off in repeating the verse. One of those old tunes is so arranged that when a portion of a certain stanza is sung, ending in 'and bow before the Lord,' a most ludicrous effect is produced, thus; 'and bow, wow, wow before the Lord.' " (AH 153)

In 1798 and 1801 no money was appropriated for singing as asked in the town warrant, but in 1803 voted \$26 to Walter McCoye "as an en-



couragement to him to instruct the singers and attend to the singing on Sunday for the year ensuing." In 1807 there was talk of buying a "set of organs" and in 1808 Gen. Amasa Allen gave such an instrument to the town. The selectmen were instructed in 1810 to obtain an organist. It appears by the records that Miss Alexander served in that capacity. The organ was placed in the gallery facing the pulpit. The installation apparently ruined the value of the pew behind the organ, the town paying the owners \$32 and taking the pew.

Agitation for the purchase of a bell for the meeting house began in 1795, with final acquisition of a Revere bell weighing 936 pounds in 1798. It was voted in 1800 that the bell be rung on week days at noon and nine o'clock and on Sundays at 9:30 A.M.; 10:30 A.M., in the intermission one hour before meeting began, at a suitable time to call the people to meeting and at 9:00 P.M. When the meeting house was moved to the village, the bell and the organ were also moved. However, March 11, 1828, it was voted that the bell be moved to the meeting house on the hill. The organ remained in the meeting house in the village until 1843 when the selectmen were instructed to lease, lend or sell it.

In 1845 it was voted that only the town bell be rung at the expense of the town, but through the years it was usually customary to have the Unitarian bell and the bell at Drewsville rung also at noon and at nine P.M.

In 1818 there began to be agitation for moving the meeting house to the village, which again broke out in 1819 and in 1824. In 1825 at town meetings in March and September articles for moving were dismissed, but on October 27 a vote resulted in a majority of 17 for removal on condition that . . . (31) individuals give sufficient security . . . that the house be moved within one year. "Whereupon 153 legal voters living in the south and easterly parts of the town signed and published in the local newspapers a spirited protest" which went unheeded. According to George Aldrich writing in the *History of Cheshire County* "The ostensible plea set forth was, by moving, the people would be better accommodated; but the real purpose was to secure a place for Unitarian worship, the sentiments of which had obtained a strong foothold in the village. . . . The removal was attended with much ill feeling, and it is said one man was crazed by the act."

The last town meeting on the hill was held March 14, 1826. A meeting on April 15 was held at School #1, and the next annual meeting at the meeting house set up in the village. It continued as a meeting house until 1843 when the selectmen were instructed to settle with an agent



of the church. In 1844 a committee was chosen to change the meeting house belonging to the town to a form and position to meet the needs of the town, and the pew holders were to be bought out. Thenceforth it was known as the Town House or the Town Hall.

When the meeting house stood at the very summit of Prospect Street (so wrote Judge Josiah G. Bellows) every Sunday all the inhabitants of the town flocked there to worship. "They made a day's outing of it. It must have been cold in our winter months for the building was entirely without means of supplying any artificial heat. I have no doubts that the sermons were warm enough but even the minister of that day could not preach over three hours on a stretch. That was not an unusual length then and in the intermissions the people who had the price of a mug of flip were wont to adjourn to the warmer precincts of the adjoining tavern (now 1962 Hooper Golf Club), while their more impecunious brethren had to get warm as best they could by gymnastic exertions, and stay their empty stomachs with frozen hunks of bread and cheese. . . .

"I like to think of the old Town Church. I never saw it for it was almost a thing of the past before I was born. As it has so often been described to me the main church was in what is now the lower Town Hall, which then extended over the entire lower floor; and what is now the upper hall was then a great gallery running around three sides of the auditorium with the large arched window which still remains at the south end of the hall back of the stage. Then it occupied the north end and under it was placed the great high square pulpit from which the minister preached his sermons. The lower floor was divided into large square pews which were filled mainly by the magnates of the town, while the large gallery afforded only plain settees for its occupants." Before the days of the organ there was "a small orchestra in which the great bass viol predominated the singing. Sermons were long and meaty. There was no claptrap to attract the hearers, no pretty stories or gospel hymns, but the soundest and clearest logic where, if the premises were correct, the conclusions were certain."

When Walpole was settled, all worshipped together and supported by taxation the Town Church. Gradually Baptist churches were formed in neighboring towns and one by one Walpole men asked to be excused from paying the minister's tax because they were of the Baptist faith (1780's on). In Drewsville Samuel Nichols erected a Baptist chapel, but it long ago ceased to be used for any religious purpose. Also in Drewsville Col. Thomas C. Drew and others formed an Episcopal Society (1817), in time building the stone church on the east side of the Common. In March Hollow and in Christian Hollow those of the Church of Saints in Christ (Christian) established their own church (approx. 1823).

But also within the Town supported church there were divisions, a three-way difference, at least, in beliefs—Universalism, Unitarianism, and orthodox Congregationalism. The moving of the meeting house from the hill to the village was the signal for these differences to break out into the open and probably the town never witnessed so much turmoil and angry



feeling. Over the next fifteen years the changes in affiliation and names of religious groups are confusing and difficult to sort out from the existing records.

Of the thirty-one men who had been guarantors in the amount of \$10,000 for the prompt moving of the meeting house, only one's name appears in the list of members of the Town Church up to that time. However thirteen of the wives of the guarantors were members. Can it be that the ladies as well as the business men in the village brought pressure to bring the meeting house to a location more convenient for them?

Guarantors:

Macy Adams	John Carlisle	Sam'l Mead
Dexter Anderson	Jonathan Cutler	Walton Mead
Abel Bellows	Lovell Farr	William Mitchell
Hubbard Bellows	William Gage	Eben'r Morse
Josiah Bellows	David Gilbert	Isaac Redington
Josiah Bellows	Sam'l Grant	Stephen Rice
his agent	Nath'l Holland	David Stone
Thomas Bellows	Elizah Kilburn	Charles Stratton
David Bisco	Jacob N. Knapp	Frederick Vose
Leonard Bisco	Christopher Lincoln	George Watkins
David Brooks	David Mead	

On January 31, 1826, about three months after the action to move the meeting house, a group of 63 declared to the Town (Clerk's Records) that they were no longer of the religious persuasion of the Rev. Pliny Dickinson. Curiously, only one of these is previously recorded as a member of the Town Church and only six of the wives were members. This group included not only a Deacon of the Town Church but some of those then or later associated with the orthodox Congregational, Universalist and Christian Churches. This was probably an endeavor to remove from town obligation the payment of the preacher and not necessarily a matter of concerted religious belief.

The dissenters to the moving of the meeting house, including a variety of religious opinion, other than the Unitarians who continued to occupy the meeting house after it was moved to the village, organized a new society called, according to Aldrich, "The Independent Congregational Society". They built a church on the old site on the hill, completing it in 1826.

Mr. Dickinson had apparently continued to preach to some extent in the old meeting house until 1829. At least he kept the church records for the Town Church until that date when he went to "the Hill Society".



Aldrich says a man named Thayer preached in the village but no other record of him is found. Dickinson also preached in the new meeting house on the hill part of the time until 1831. A salary was paid to him by the Town through 1827. He was dismissed on April 13, 1831 and the Congregational Church of Walpole (Monadnock Assoc.) was formed with a renewal of covenant on the same date. Eight men signed the Confession of Faith, they all having been, before 1825, members of the Town Church. This group, which met at the home of Apollos Gilmore, had been a part of the "Independent Congregational Society".

Signers: Thomas Sparhawk  
James Howland  
Jonas Hosmore  
Thomas Seaver

Nathan Bundy  
Luther Knowlton  
Phillip Bundy  
George Kilburn

On July 4, 1831 a meeting of the contributors to Orthodox preaching was called. It was voted to join with the Congregational Church of Walpole, as established in April, and give a call to Edwin Jennison to be their minister. A similar action by the Congregational Church in Walpole in June had made possible this joint call to Mr. Jennison, a sturdy orthodox Congregationalist, who started his pastorate on August 31, 1831.

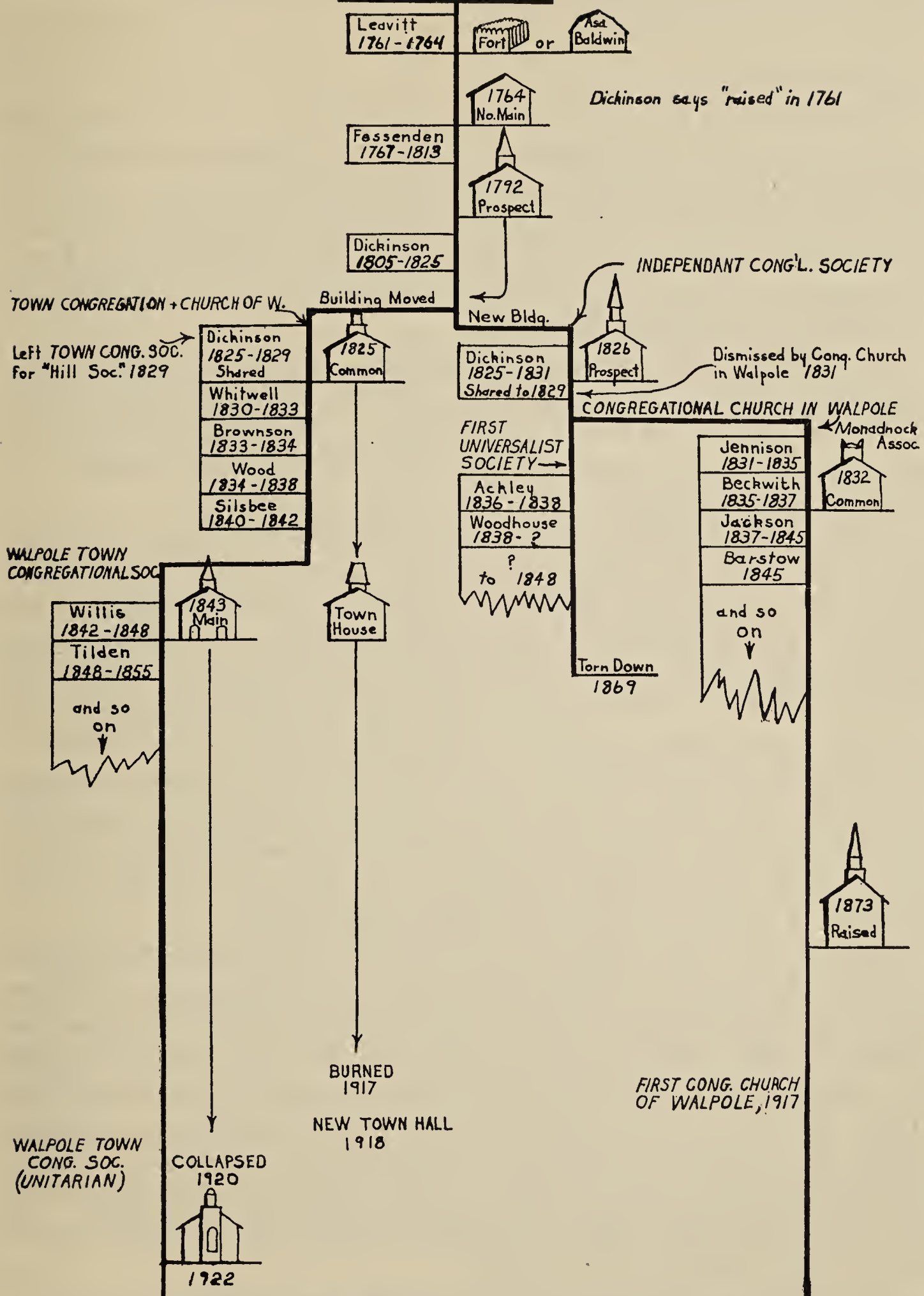
On October 15, 1832 a Committee of Council reported in favor of building a new meeting house to be located in the village. Once again those living outside the village were more interested in the meeting house on the hill and hence the Independent Congregational Society. Their reluctance to move was demonstrated in failure to contribute toward the building of the new church, east of the common, which was completed in 1833. Only nine local contributors appear in the record.

On November 20, 1832 a new religious society, The First Congregational Society, was formed, probably from those who had been supporting orthodox preaching. This produced actually or in effect the First Congregational Church and Society of Walpole which Aldrich says was formed on that date by six signers.

In 1836 the Independent Congregational Society, which had been established in 1826 was dissolved and the First Universalist Society in Walpole was formed from those left over after the departure of the Congregationalists to the village. Rev. Daniel Ackley supplied the desk for some two years, followed by Rev. Charles Woodhouse and others occasionally for some ten or twelve years. Preaching was finally suspended and for many years the building on the hill stood empty and dilapidated. In



# THE CHURCH IN WALPOLE



All names used for churches taken from most contemporary records.



1869 the remains were sold to the highest bidder. (See diagram of divisions in the Town Church.)

#### EARLY MINISTERS

Early records of the church in Walpole were kept by the church and by the town. The church records burned at the house of the pastor November 23, 1771, so that the town records are all that are now available in the contemporary form. They appear to have been written into the town record book from some other source, particularly in regard to Mr. Leavitt's pastorate, no entry being made until after the entries for 1766, after that gentleman had been dismissed.

The church is said to have been organized in 1757. On November 7, 1760 it was voted "That each settler . . . pay five shillings Sterling money to be laid out for the use of preaching. . . . That Benjamin Bellows, Esq., Mr. Nathaniel Hovey and Mr. Israel Calkins be a committee to agree with the minister."

At 10 o'clock Monday, December 22, 1760 the settlers met at the fort and voted to give Mr. Jonathan Leavitt a call to settle in the work of the ministry in Walpole, to give him £75 as an encouragement and the right in the town reserved for the first settled minister. His annual salary was "to begin at £37 10 sh., to increase £3 15 sh. each year to £60 until there be 80 rateable poles in town, then rise 15 shillings per pole, up to £75 and remain there so long as he shall continue to be the minister in Walpole." Each settler was to pay £2 5 sh. toward the settlement and first year salary, Col. Bellows to pay the remainder. Mr. Leavitt accepted the call February 10, 1761 and was ordained and installed June 10, 1761, Serg't Israel Calkins being allowed \$2 "for his servis in going for the minister to attend Mr. Jonathan Leavitt's ordination."

There is no further mention of Mr. Leavitt in the records until April 30, 1764 when at one o'clock in the afternoon the settlers met at the house of Mr. Jeremiah Phelps "To here the mind of the People concerning the Differences that has arisen between the Rev. Mr. Jonathan Leavitt and the people of said Town or any Perticular person or Persons in Said Town and to act on any Matter or Thing that Shall be then thought proper for the Settling or bringing those Matters to a Settlement or agree and Vote any other way or thing as Shall then be thought proper." It was "Voted that they think it best that the Rev. Mr. Jonathan Leavitt be no longer Minister in this Town."

Mr. Nathaniel Hovey, Mr. Abraham Smith and Mr. Edmund Jackson were voted "a committee to go to Mr. Leavitt to see Whither he will wait



on this meeting." Apparently Mr. Leavitt did not wish to be heard at the meeting and it was voted to adjourn to May 15 "at three of the clock in the afternoon to meet at this house by the Desire of Mr. Leavitt." At the adjourned meeting Mr. Hovey, Mr. Smith and Benjamin Bellows Esq. were chosen a committee "to settle the affair with Rev. Mr. Jonathan Leavitt."

June 20, 1764 the settlers met to hear the report of the committee and to wait on the Ecclesiastical Council which was to be called. However, the committee came to an agreement whereby Mr. Leavitt released the town from any claim he held, and a Council did not meet.

There is no mention in the records of the cause of the difference between pastor and people, but Aldrich says "Ministers were not so easily dismissed in those days and had there not been something more than common to agitate and arouse the feelings of his charge there would have been a division of sentiment.

"One of the reasons for his summary dismissal, it is said, was that the parson was detected in leading home a runaway slave of his, a woman, by a rope round her neck and attached to the pommel of his saddle. Col. Bellows hearing of the outrage, declared 'That such cruelty should not be tolerated,' and 'that he settled parson Leavitt and he would unsettle him.' (AH 33) For more on Jonathan Leavitt see *Churches and Ministers in Franklin County, Mass.* published 1854 by Rev. Theophilus Packard Jr., available at Keene, N. H., Public Library.

Following Mr. Leavitt's dismissal Mr. Jonathan Moore supplied the pulpit. On September 26, 1766 it was voted to extend a call to Mr. Thomas Fessenden, a graduate at Harvard in 1758, to settle in the work of the ministry in Walpole. The beginning salary offered was £150, but there was the provision that "the people have Liberty to pay said Salary if they see Cause in good winter wheat that is Marchantable at four shillings per bushel; good rye at three shillings per bushel and good Indian Corn at two shillings per bushel; good beef at two pence per pound or good pork at three pence per pound the Pork being Hogs that weigh Eight Schore and upward all which is to be delivered at the house of the Said Mr. Fessenden at the above Prices". Mr. Fessenden replied in part "the tender and manner of payment Does not in all things appear agreeable to your Design and the nature of the work you invite me to engage in." He suggested that such an arrangement might compel him to become a merchant. An agreement was reached and Mr. Fessenden accepted the call.

He was ordained Jan. 7, 1767. During his active pastorate the number



admitted to the church, by letter and profession, was 365, and during that time he solemnized 299 marriages. . . . He mingled with his people in their joys and sorrows for nearly two generations. . . . In sunshine and rain, heat and cold, mounted on his trusty old horse, clad in old fashioned style, wearing a cocked hat and small clothes, he climbed the hill . . . and punctually fulfilled his stipulated engagements to his patient congregation.

“From what is gathered from his writings, and what little information is gleaned from the old citizens of the town, it is inferred that he was a man—liberal in his views and popular as a preacher. He was fond of amusements, and at the social gatherings of the young, honored them by his presence. He liked a good dinner with his parishioners and never seriously objected to sipping a mug of flip with them on account of its being derogatory to the cloth to do so. On one occasion he preached a sermon to which some of his parishioners took umbrage, and urged him to retract the next Sabbath, which he promised to do. In his sermon the next Sunday, he made allusion to the offense given and said, ‘If he had said anything in his last Sabbath’s discourse that he did not mean to say he was sorry for it, and he hoped his apology would be satisfactory.’

“Mr. Fessenden at length became superannuated, when the town settled with him a colleague, in the person of Pliny Dickinson, May 6, 1805. . . . After Mr. Dickinson’s ordination, he took rooms with Col. Caleb Bellows and soon became enamoured with his daughter Mary, who reciprocated his feelings.” (*AH*)

At the time she was only five years of age. When she was nineteen their “bands” were published, in spite of her father’s rising in church and exclaiming “I forbid the bands.” That was an unhappy day and the next Sunday Mr. Dickinson took for his text “I am a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.” The subject produced a nine day’s gossip in the town, but the talk finally died away and Mr. Dickinson married his Mary and lived happily for many years.

He preached to his parish for most of the 26 years at \$550 a year salary (reduced to \$400 about the time when the Town Church was moved). After Mr. Dickinson left for the “Hill Society” in 1829, the Town Congregational Society occupying the church moved to the common in 1826, engaged Mr. Wm. G. Whitwell from 1830 to 1833; Mr. O. A. Brownson from 1833 to 1834; Mr. Horatio Wood from 1834 to 1838; Mr. Wm. Silsbee from 1840 to 1842, he following a succession of supply preachers, about ten in number in the course of two years.



The Unitarian Church—legally known as “The Walpole Town Congregational Society,” was founded in 1842. At this time a group of the members of the old town society holding Unitarian beliefs decided to form their own society and build a new church which would be Unitarian. Land was obtained three-fifths by gift and two-fifths by purchase, bounded on three sides by what are now Main, Union and School Streets. (The School St. section was eventually sold for private building.)

The new church was finished, complete with horsesheds, by January 1843 and dedicated on June 14th of that year. The church tablets were given by Mr. Abiel Chandler of Boston who later lived in Walpole. Mr. and Mrs. St. John gave the first church lamps—bronze oil lamps. As one parish poet later wrote:

“Two stoves within the entry stood  
In winter crammed with blazing wood,  
Where boys with coals the foot stoves filled  
That tender feet might not be chilled.”

The ladies group of the church—known as The Walpole Female Benevolent Society—furnished the carpets and cushions, making them with their own hands; also the red damask curtain that hung behind the pulpit.

In 1843 the Rev. Dr. Henry Whitney Bellows of New York gave the large Bible still in use. This was rebound over one hundred years later by Dr. Bellows’ daughter, Mrs. Ellen Bellows Endicott.

Some years later the T.O.U.X. Club gave the marble baptismal font. In the 1860s the Rev. Henry W. Bellows gave the granite posts and chains to enclose the church yard to “protect it from stray animals which frequently roam the streets.”

The Rev. Martin W. Willis was called as the first minister at a salary of \$600 a year with the “privilege of vacating the pulpit two Sab’s in the year.”

In 1844 the clock from the Academy building was placed in the tower of the church.

In 1848 the ladies of the Sewing Society decided to build a parsonage. Up to this time the ministers were boarded or a house was rented for a parsonage. It was becoming increasingly difficult, however, to obtain suitable quarters so the ladies went to work. It was written the ladies—



“Have stitched on the clapboards and quilted the roof,  
And run every crack with a seam water-proof.  
And who would have thought, that a house, barn and shed,  
Could be all put together with needle and thread.”

These house-wifely efforts, plus gifts of money, finished the parsonage in the Autumn of 1850. The Tildens moved in just in time to have a housewarming on Christmas Eve.

Regular services usually were held twice a day on Sunday, one service in the morning and one in the early afternoon. As the parish poet recalls these former years—

“But, wonder strange! no empty pew  
Disturbed the preacher’s anxious view . . .  
The people come from street and hill  
And twice a day the pews they fill.  
No Sunday paper then had power  
To hold them in the morning hour;  
Not summer’s heat nor winter’s cold  
Could keep them from the sacred fold.”

The records are not clear, but it seems likely that the afternoon services were discontinued during the pastorate of the Rev. George Dexter.

In 1896 the Hon. T. Nelson Hastings gave the Hastings Memorial Parish House to the church in memory of his wife Amy Bridge Hastings. This gift extensively broadened the activities and life of the church and the Parish House was in almost constant use. From then on up to the present day the following used this facility:

The Sunday School;

The Unitarian Ladies Society and Sewing Group—formerly known as the Walpole Female Benevolent Society, then later as the Unitarian Ladies Society and finally the Walpole Branch Alliance of Unitarian and Universalist Women;

The Footlighters Club. This was a drama group formed in 1898 which gave plays and entertainments;

The T.O.U.X. Club—a secret noma, but was Ten of Us Ten—formed during the last years of the century by ten young ladies of the church who met for social and philanthropic work. This group gave the church a handsome central chandelier in 1901 for which they earned the money. They were later absorbed by the Ladies Unitarian Society;

The Unitarian Club—all men—formed in 1901 to encourage friendly relations among the men of the church and all others of whatever creed who were interested in the meetings which were educational as well as social;

The Young People’s Religious Union, formed under Rev. Nichols’ direction in 1902, a very active group in the church;



In 1916 or '17 the Rev. Sanford inaugurated the showing of moving pictures. These were shown once a week and became a special event for the town. It being the era of silent movies, Arthur Sawyer or Louis R. Lincoln rendered on the upright piano excitingly dramatic or soulfully romantic music to point up the action on the screen;

In the 1920's the Unitarian Club mentioned above was reactivated as the Laymen's League, more familiarly known as the "Men's Club" and was very active in civic affairs. One member recalls that the "meetings invariably ended with a rousing game of Pitch!";

During this same era a Boy Scout Troop was formed and met here;

Suppers, dances, lectures, plus all the "good works" made the Parish House a humming spot all of which contributed in cash and good will to the church and also to the community. (In 1962 all of these groups have passed into history except for the Sunday School and the Walpole Branch Alliance.)

In 1901 the church caught on fire in the basement from an overheated furnace. Mr. Hastings, living just across the street, was one of the first on the scene. Even though the church was filled with dense smoke, he ran down the aisle and rescued the Bible from the desk. One of his sons recalling the incident said, "I was terrified as I watched Father disappear into the smoke and wondered if he would be able to get out again. Looking back on it, it was remarkable that the fire was contained in the basement when only hand pumps were available with which to fight it." Continued the son: "Father said he would shoot the first man that broke the windows as that would spread the fire."

In 1912 the Unitarian Church united with the Congregational Church in celebrating the joint 150th Anniversary of the two churches.

In the early morning of February 19, 1920, probably around 3 a.m., the church building collapsed under the heavy weight of rain and snow that fell during the night. A neighbor living above the church on School St., recalling the event, said "the last thing we saw before dark was the church steeple. Upon looking out the next morning, to see how much snow had fallen, we could not believe our eyes. The church, steeple and building, had vanished! We thought we must be dreaming!" Even though the steeple with its bell crashed into the body of the church, next door neighbors heard nothing. Rotting timbers and the unusually heavy snow fall caused the collapse.

The organ, but slightly damaged, was saved owing to the front wall being left standing. Again Mr. Hastings from across the street came to the rescue. He owned a large tent fly which he and others immediately spread over the organ, keeping it from further damage until it could be taken apart and stored in the Hastings barn.

Everything else was lost or damaged beyond repair. The damage was



estimated by one Boston newspaper as being around \$100,000. Morning services were held thereafter in the Parish House until the completion of the new and present church.

The shock of the loss had hardly been realized before a committee was formed to raise money to rebuild. Insurance on the fallen building covered fire only, so no help could be expected from that quarter. Mr. Robert Peabody Bellows, of the firm of Bellows and Aldrich of Boston, was the architect chosen to draw up the plans which he kindly donated to the church. The interior of the church resembled in a great part the interior of the famous King's Chapel in Boston. The building was completed in 1922 and was dedicated April 10th of that year. The clock in the steeple was given by the town and became known as the Town Clock.

The lights in the church were given by Miss Dorothy Whitney and her mother. The angels on the organ were given by Mrs. Ellen (Bellows) Robinson (Endicott), and the box pews by Mrs. Francis G. Flint in memory of her husband.

During World War II years it became advisable for the Walpole and Charlestown parishes to combine under one minister. This was done in 1943. Mr. Jenkins resigned because he did not wish to serve two parishes even though he thought it best that this should be done.

In 1948 the Walpole and Charlestown churches became once again two separate parishes each with its own minister. At the end of Mr. Lyding's ministry, he and Mrs. Lyding were given a scroll in appreciation of their years of unselfish service to the church and community. It is recorded that Mrs. Lyding was her husband's "most faithful and efficient helpmate who has endeared herself to all."

The Rev. Orrin L. Kosmo succeeded Mr. Lyding. Mr. Kosmo was settled Sept. 1, 1957, installed Dec. 1, 1958, and at this writing—1962—is successfully ministering to the parish.

Two events took place in 1961. One was the celebration with the Congregational Church of their joint 200th Anniversary. A combined worship service was held in the Town Hall as part of this celebration.

The ministers, with their length of pastorate, of the Walpole Town Congregational Society are listed below:

Rev. Martin W. Willis	Dec. 6, 1843-May 1, 1848
Rev. William P. Tilden	Sept. 27, 1848-June 1, 1855
Rev. Thomas G. Lothrop	Nov. 6, 1856-
Rev. Charles Ritter	Nov. 3, 1858-Apr. 17, 1859
Rev. C. T. Canfield	Jan. 1, 1860-June 10, 1860
Rev. D. H. Ranney	Apr. 1, 1861-Dec. 1, 1861
Rev. Thomas Dawes	1862-Jan. 1, 1865



Rev. Nathaniel Seaver, Jr.	Nov. 23, 1865-May 10, 1868
Rev. Russell N. Bellows	Oct. 18, 1868-Oct. 1, 1869
Rev. George Dexter	June 19, 1870-May 2, 1873
Rev. William Brown	Aug. 1, 1875-Sept. 1, 1883
Rev. John Williams	In spring, 1884-Oct. 1, 1886
Rev. George W. Patten	Mar., 1887-Feb., 1890
Rev. Francis S. Thacher	Nov. 25, 1890-Nov., 1892
Rev. English Crooks	Nov. 1, 1893-1894
Rev. Frank W. Pratt	Jan., 1896-Jan. 1, 1900
Rev. W. L. Nichols	Nov. 22, 1900-Dec. 1, 1905
Rev. Hilary Bigrave	Supplied in interim
Rev. Samuel Raymond Maxwell	July, 1906-Jan. 1, 1909
Rev. C. Emile Aimar	Aug. 17, 1909-Apr. 1, 1915
Rev. Lewis H. Sanford	Feb. 1, 1916-Feb. 16, 1922
Rev. Robert N. L. Holt	Oct. 5, 1922-July 1, 1941
Rev. William P. Jenkins	Jan. 21, 1942-1943
Rev. Ralph Edward Kyper	Sept. 17, 1944-Apr. 1, 1948
Rev. Otto Lyding	Aug. 1, 1948-Jan. 15, 1957
Rev. Orrin L. Kosmo	Dec. 1, 1958-

#### THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH by Lula Sargent

As has been previously noted the Church on the hill, after the division, included the Universalists and the orthodox Congregationalists. Relations becoming intolerable, the Congregationalists withdrew and after a series of intervening steps described earlier in this chapter finally formed a new religious group on Nov. 20, 1832, and called it "The First Congregational Church and Society in Walpole". They decided to build a church. Surrounding towns helped with contributions for the building, funds coming from Brattleboro, Vt., Boston and Worcester, Mass., Townshend, Vt., and Keene, Rindge, and Fitzwilliam, N. H. Friends from as far away as New York assisted as did the Church in Lebanon, N. H. In late 1833 or early 1834 the Church was completed at its present site.

According to the treasurer's books, the church received repairs in 1845.

In 1873 plans were made to raise the church nine feet at a cost of \$4000, of which Benjamin Aldrich would pay \$1000, Ladies' Sewing Society \$1200, rest of Society \$1000. It was actually raised 10 ft. 4 in. George D. Pollard of Greenfield, Mass., very quietly and efficiently did the raising, while Alfred Burt was the carpenter in charge. A vestry and kitchen were built underneath the raised sanctuary, with a projection to the east for the pulpit, organ and choir. The walls of the sanctuary were papered drab, the ceiling cerulean; carpet was crimson and black, upholstery in scarlet. The slips which originally ran crosswise were turned into line, four gained by removing the old pulpit. The organ was moved



from the gallery to the new projection and separated from the pulpit platform by a black walnut balustrade made by Messrs. Burt and Cowdery. The black walnut pulpit, small marble top black walnut table, and two heavy black walnut chairs were anonymous gifts; Miss Katie Howland gave an elegant pulpit Bible; Edwin Hosmer the 12 light chandelier and wall brackets with 18 lights. The total cost, not including the settees in the basement, was \$5,833.38. Oliver Martin, B. F. Aldrich, E. K. Seabury, and G. W. Cowdery were the building committee. Oliver Martin and B. F. Aldrich paid the deficit of \$1,511.11. The horsesheds were also improved.

During the alterations services were held in the town hall.

During March 1873 there were special preaching services at the church for two weeks, of a revivalistic nature. Sunday evenings there were services of praise, full of enthusiasm, singing of songs old and new. During the week prayer meeting was held Thursday evening.

Life was not all serious—there were sugar parties, operettas, sociables with Ma Sweet and her seven daughters . . .

A pipe organ, formerly in Mt. Vernon Church in Boston, Mass., was purchased in 1880. In 1883 a parsonage “to be called the Kilburn Parsonage as a memorial of our two children, Mary Theresa and Charles William Kilburn, whom God has taken to himself”, was presented to the Church by Elijah C. Kilburn of Fall River, Mass., a native of Walpole and former member of the Church.

The first Children’s Day was held in 1885.

In 1888 there was a Christian Endeavour Society with some 30 members.

Electric lights were installed in 1908, and in 1911 extensive repairs and improvements were made, including hardwood floors, new carpets, new vestry seats, new lectern chair, and rug for the vestry platform. In 1923 new horsesheds were built.

An item of interest is that Walpole Troop No. 1 of the Boy Scouts was organized and existed until 1925, apparently sponsored by the Church.

The earliest record of any Sunday School is a receipted bill dated 1836 for a book case, a few items listed in 1841, with the present treasurer’s books beginning in 1861.

A new kitchen and rest rooms were added in 1952. In 1962, just ten years later, a basement was excavated and new Church School rooms and all-purpose room or assembly hall built.

Following is a list of the ministers serving The First Congregational Church of Walpole:



Rev. Edwin Jennison	Aug. 31, 1831-Mar. 1835
Rev. B. B. Beckwith	Mar. 1835-Jan. 1836
Rev. Seth R. Arnold	1836-1836
Rev. Abraham Jackson	Jan. 10, 1837-June 5, 1845
Rev. E. H. Barstow	Aug. 6, 1845-Dec. 30, 1851
Rev. Alfred Goldsmith	Dec. 30, 1851-Mar. 7, 1853
Rev. J. M. Stow	Jan. 31, 1855-July 5, 1863
Rev. Gabriel H. DeBevoise	July 26, 1865-Aug. 6, 1868
Rev. Lysander Dickerman	1868-1869
Rev. William E. Dickenson	June 2, 1870-Mar. 1875
Rev. S. T. Robie	Sept. 8, 1875-Sept. 1876
Rev. Edwin Seabury	Supplied for a few months
Rev. Fred Lyman Allen	Sept. 26, 1877-June 23, 1884
Rev. William H. Teel	Sept. 1884-Mar. 21, 1889
Rev. G. I. Bard	Sept. 17, 1889-Feb. 2, 1897
Rev. E. A. Keep	June 28, 1897-Apr. 18, 1903
Rev. William L. Collins	May 22, 1903-Dec. 31, 1903
Rev. William F. Warren	Feb. 1904-Dec. 28, 1906
Rev. Alfred J. Wilson	Aug. 1907-Apr. 1909
Rev. Henry G. Megathlin	Oct. 17, 1909-Nov. 8, 1925
William M. Parker (layman)	July 1926-July 1927
Rev. John H. Allen	Oct. 1927-1934
Rev. Walter B. Wiley	1934-1937
Arnold Brown, Lic.	1938-1941
Rev. Adolph R. Linblade	1942-1945
Rev. John P. McGee	Sept. 1947-June 1951
Rev. Norman R. Farnum, Jr.	Nov. 1951-Nov. 1955
Rev. Peter R. M. Farrell	Dec. 1955-Apr. 21, 1956
Rev. William O. Wagner	Oct. 1956

#### ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH by Frank Driscoll

The building that is at present known as St. Joseph's Catholic Church was built in 1845 by the Methodist Society, who occupied it until 1860. It was then rented to the Episcopal Society, and they conducted services there for about two years.

In those days there was a small group of Catholics in Walpole who had no place where they could attend Mass. They were diligent, hard-working people with large families. The nearest Catholic Church was in North Walpole or Bellows Falls, Vt. It meant a few miles' walk for them each Sunday to attend Mass, but they didn't hesitate to trudge those miles in all kinds of weather.

In the meantime, they dreamed and hoped that they might someday have a Catholic Church in Walpole. They formed a committee of men, including Bartholomew Driscoll, Bartholomew Kiniry, Thomas Griffin, Dennis Griffin, Daniel O'Brien, Patrick Drislane and John Harty and



they started to work to make their dream a reality. They collected enough money to make a down payment on the little church on the Common, which at that time was not in use. The collection amounted to \$500.00, which they gave to Rev. Daniel Murphy, a missionary priest who used to come from Boston and say Mass in the Town Hall occasionally. If the Town Hall were not available, he would say the Mass at the home of one of the parishioners. Father Murphy contacted a member of the Episcopal Society and gave him the down payment on the building and received the deed August 20, 1868, to the building which is now St. Joseph's Church. The total cost of the church was \$1,037.50.

The first Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in 1869. The growth of the parish, since it was first organized, is aptly illustrated by the parable of the mustard seed.

In the early years of St. Joseph's Church, the Mass was celebrated only every few months, but with the continued growth of the congregation, Mass is celebrated twice every Sunday. Though St. Joseph's Church is still a Mission of St. Catherine's Church in Charlestown, N. H., the hopes and feelings of her parishioners is that it will become a parish in the near future.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL SOCIETY

This society was organized in 1842 as a station in connection with Langdon, meetings being held in the town hall. A chapel was completed in 1845, sold to the Roman Catholics in 1868.

Ministers: I. W. Huntley 1845; A. S. Tenney 1846; S. Eastman 1848; D. P. Leavitt 1850; S. P. Heath 1851; O. S. Morris 1854; H. Chandler and H. F. Forrestal 1855-6; P. Wallingford and Charles Lewis 1857-8.

#### ST. PETER'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Roman Catholic Church in North Walpole was organized in 1848 as a mission of St. Mary's parish, Claremont; 1853 became a mission of St. Charles' parish in Bellows Falls, Vermont; 1865 became a mission of St. Mary's parish, Claremont; set up as a parish, St. Peter's, 1878.

The present church was built by volunteer labor in 1877, completed in time for Midnight Mass, Dec. 25, 1877. Stone for the foundation was hauled from Chester, Vt., by horse and wagon. It was rebuilt in 1933; dedicated Nov. 1934. Intricately carved white marble altars and colorful decorations and memorial windows make an extraordinarily handsome interior.



Resident Pastors of St. Peter’s Parish:

Rev. Maurice F. Galvin	1877-82	Rev. Timothy W. Coakley	1911-15
Rev. Narcisse Cournoyer	1882-85	Rev. George F. Marshall	1915-32
Rev. G. H. Feeney	1885-91	Rev. Edward P. Farrell	1932-38
Rev. John J. Houlihan	1891-1900	Rev. William F. Pendergast	1938-54
Rev. Louis M. Wilde	1900-11	Rev. John B. McQuaid	1954-

Catholic Priests, Natives of North Walpole:

- Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. Foley, Pastor, St. Catherine’s Parish, Manchester
- Rev. Thomas Pheur, MM, Am. Cath. F. M. Soc. (Maryknoll) Motherhouse
- Rev. John Lynch, O.S.B., Treasurer, St. Anselm’s College, Manchester
- Rev. James F. Moynihan, S.J., Boston College, Brighton, Mass.
- Rev. Stanley Piwowar, Ass’t, St. Hedwige’s Parish, Manchester

Religious Sisters, Natives of North Walpole:

Sisters of Mercy (N. H.)

Helen Reardon, Sister M. Gonzaga	Anna Powers, Sister M. Nicholas
Anna Pheur, Sister M. Laurenita	Mary Jane Aylward, Sister M. Edmund
Mae Pheur, Sister M. Thomasina	Betty Szuch, Sister M. Baptista
Eleanor Shaughnessy, Sister M. Leonora	

Sisters of St. Joseph (Vt.)

Katherine Gallagher, Sister M. Dominic	Irene Diggins, Sister Anna Marie
Anne Gallagher, Sister M. Thomas	

Religious Brother, Native of Walpole:

Henry Francis Delaney, Brother Henry, S.J.

UNITED RELIGIOUS CHRISTIAN SOCIETY

This Society was formed December 1817 through the preaching of Edward B. Rollins with 35 members. An edifice was built on “The Flat” near “March Hill”.

“An Account of the Planting of the Church of Saints in Christ—At Walpole New Hampshire on the thirtieth day of June in the year of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand eight hundred and twenty one—With a Record of the Acts of the Church: This group, with a membership of 13 males and 22 females, met with Edward R. Rollins as teacher, the services including singing, praying, and some exhortation followed by relating of personal ‘experiences’, the establishment of ‘fellowship’, and the observance of communion and baptism. On August 16, 1821, it is recorded that they heard new members relate their ‘experiences’, then ‘went out by the water side, united in prayer and praise, and





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### *Old Christian Hollow Church*

Irene Mason and Harriet Robinson were baptized by Elder E. B. Robinson.'

"In 1822 the fellowship received a circular letter from the Conference at Bradford, Vt., with instructions for the conduct of their affairs. The brethren spent much time and thought trying to relate the communication to their particular situation."

December 23, 1823 Brother Jacob B. Burnham was chosen "to serve the Brethren in search of fellowship" and became their pastor, ordained February 18, 1824. During 1825 Elder Rollins supplied with preaching one Sunday each month.

In June 1825 a meeting was held at the home of Robert Fay who had been one of the leaders in the fellowship and chosen as deacon. There is no record of what transpired at that meeting, but a group separated from "the Christian connexion", and Sylvestre Smith was chosen "to move forward in the duties" which Brother Fay had been performing.

The fellowship met "at the School House . . . in the Hollow . . . March 20 AD 1826 being desirous of forming a Religious Society to be known . . ." as the United Religious Christian Society of Walpole.

At a meeting July 1, 1826 at William Robinson's Inn in the Hollow the society voted to build a meeting house. The contract was let to Caleb Farnum to complete the house by November 1 for \$560. The following were the specifications: "45 feet in Length and 35 feet in Width and 16 feet Posts and to contain 14 Cock tennon Posts with outer



Sills and 5 cross Sills with a Sufficient number of Sleepers . . . finished on the outside with 9 Windows of 40 lights 7 Inches by 9 and 6 Windows 24 lights 7 Inches by 9 and to be decently boarded, Clapboarded and Shingled . . . with a good double Cornish and one good double pannel Door with good Hangings, the Inside to be finished . . . with 44 Slips a good double Floor and the wall Slips to be 8 Inches above the Floor the doors of the Slips to be pannel work and hung with Suitable hangings and the Slips decent plain work . . . and a Small Pulpit to be raised suitably above the Floor for the accommodation of the Speaker Said pulpit to be 3 feet by 4 feet and made of Pannel Work a small Galery in front of the Meeting House for Singers to be raised 7 feet from the Floor across the whole width of the Meeting House and eight feet wide and suitably Raised on the back Side with 3 rows of Seats and 2 flights of Stairs to go up into the Galery and the partition between the Galery or Entry to be Lathed and plastered up to the front of the Galery . . . the front to be finished with pannel work and one flight of stairs to go up to the pulpit the walls of the Meeting House are to be ceiled up as high as the bottom of the windows with good Boards . . . with 2 inside doors made of pannel work . . . 3 Inside beams to be circular one foot or more . . . the inside of the House that is not ceiled all to be lathed and plastered on the walls and above with a decent arch from the walls toward the center. . . ." The building was completed and used in November.

The records available are of the Society and are of the business rather than the spiritual life of the Church. At the annual meetings officers and committees were elected, it was voted "to accept the report of the committee to support the gospel as usual by subscription", "to set up the charge of the Meeting House to the lowest bidder" and "that the wood be set up at auction to the lowest bidder. . . ." The wood was to be "cut and split 2 feet in length and piled in to the Porch of sd Meeting House." The price ranged from \$1.50, although in 1831 it was struck off to Joseph Mason Jr. "at the rate of nothing at all per cord."

Seth Willey (or someone else) was usually paid \$1.50 per year "for making the fires, sweeping the Meeting House once a month and finding his own broom." In 1834 William Robinson paid one dollar for the privilege. In 1842 it was deemed necessary to sweep the Meeting House once a week, and later locking and unlocking the door was included in the chores.

There is some mention of festivals and there was a Ladies' Benevolent Society which provided carpets in 1861, but the common means of raising money was by subscription for a specific purpose—preaching, current expenses, special repairs.

In 1830 a block of horsesheds was built on the east side of the Meeting House and another on the west side, each block "to front even with the north end of the Meeting House."

In 1860 a special meeting was called to vote on major repairs. The



committee reported "That the house should be levelled up; the underpinning replaced; the roof shingled; the house painted; the inside sleepers levelled and the floors brought to a level grade; Pews turned to front the North, at which end the pulpit should be placed; and both Pulpit and pews fitted up in modern stile respectably and painted; two stoves fitted up with funnels, and a chimney; the Plastering repaired where necessary, and Galery changed, and seats altered so as to make them more comfortable." Four hundred dollars was raised, but the cost came to \$489.98. It was voted that the Selectmen make an appraisal and assessment on the slips. After being assessed \$12 on each pew they proceeded to make plans for dedicating the refurbished house.

In 1853 the Society borrowed \$350 to buy land of G. W. Whipple for a parsonage. "They then proceeded to erect the buildings by inviting all who felt an interest in the same to assist in digging the cellar, drawing stone, preparing the ground, and underpinning the buildings. . . ." The buildings included a house, barn, hog pen, etc.

With all this property it became routine at the annual meeting to elect a committee to have charge of the property. In the last years of the Society election of this committee was the most important item of business.

In the 1878 records there is mention of an organ, and the gallery was for the singers. Except that we know that the brethren and sisters sang together, we have no further record of music.

In 1890 the Society received a legacy from Thomas Bellows. In 1903 there was a subscription for repairing the horsesheds, but otherwise the Society seemed to depend upon the income from the legacy.

There was no meeting held from August 18, 1908 to January 15, 1914 when a meeting was called by a Justice of the Peace. A meeting was held in 1919, another in 1927. In 1936-7 there was an attempt to reorganize the Society and aid was sought from the Congregational Christian Conference.

In 1937 the parsonage was sold to Floyd Jennison for \$300.

There was a meeting in 1939, and in 1940 there was a subscription to support preaching. Calls were posted for meetings 1941-3.

On May 2, 1953 five of the seven living members met at the church with Rev. Everett Barrows of the Congregational Christian Conference and dissolved the Society. All property and trust funds were transferred to the Conference to be administered for religious work in Walpole if practical, but if not, to be used in the area.



Preachers: Elder Jacob B. Burnham 1829-39, 1841-2; Elder Seth Ross 1840; Elder Abiah Kidder 1843-44; Elder P. M. Hersey 1845; Elder Moses Winchester 1846; Elder Farnam 1851-3; Elder C. W. Martin 1855-6; Rev. M. Jackson 1858; Elder William H. Ireland 1858-60; Rev. J. L. Green 1862; Elder Seth Hinkley 1864-65; Rev. David B. Murray 1872-76; Rev. S. Chadwick 1876; Rev. J. M. Woodward 1878-79; Rev. Clark Simonds 1880-81; Rev. H. M. Eaton 1881-86, 1890; Rev. Dr. Bruce 1886; J. Fawcett 1895-96; James F. Scott 1897; W. J. Hall 1900; Rev. G. H. Kent 1906-8.

#### WHAT BECAME OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL LANDS?

Gov. Wentworth granted the society (SPG) interest in 108 towns, some in Vermont, about 300 acres per town. In Walpole these lands were along the north line of the town and were included in that part set off to Langdon. It was expected that these lands "would constantly increase in value with no expense to the society unless the society cultivated and improved the lands." Also "The Governor had set aside in each town a glebe for the support of the ministry of the Church of England and his heirs."

In 1763 Mr. Browne, Church of England missionary, urged that the Society appoint an agent to take care of the lands and to preserve the timber in settled towns.

Political unrest and the War of the Revolution prevented any activity on behalf of the Society, but the treaty of 1783 secured the rights of the Society and a few years later the Society took steps to gain possession of these lands for the benefit of the Episcopal Church.

In 1788 the SPG conveyed all its right and title to lands in New Hampshire to a board of trustees, providing that one tenth of the income to go to the Bishop of New Hampshire, nine tenths to support Episcopal clergymen in each town. If there was no church, the funds should go as decided by the trustees. This did not include the church lands.

Jan. 19, 1803 Sanford Kingsbury, Ithamar Chase, Thomas Collins Drew and Isaac Temple were appointed a committee to take possession of all the glebe lands in Cheshire County and to lease them on such terms as they thought proper, but for not more than ten years. Trustees were appointed for the lands outside of Cheshire County.

Although difficulties were encountered in gaining possession, some were recovered. By 1807 suits were commenced in the name of the SPG to recover lands. An investigating committee in 1855 reported that in 1808 Simeon Olcott of Charlestown and Nathaniel Adams as trustees deeded one half of the Society's rights in various towns in Cheshire County (including Walpole) to Trinity Church, Cornish, and one half to Union Church, Claremont. One tenth of the income was to be ap-



propriated for the Bishop of New Hampshire, the other nine tenths of the income to be used for support of Protestant Episcopal clergymen in Cornish and Claremont. When a Protestant Episcopal Church should be erected and established with a settled clergyman in any of these towns, nine tenths of the income from the SPG lands in that town were to be used for the benefit of such clergymen. Finding suits for regaining the lands too costly, the trustees transferred in 1812 for \$100 all their rights, to the Trustees of Donations to the Protestant Episcopal Church, a Massachusetts corporation, incorporated 1810. The income was divided as before. This board proceeded to lease the lands for 999 years.

The lands in Walpole were recovered through the efforts of Rev. William Montague. Lands were leased at an annual rental of 6% of appraised value.

The income from these lands in Cheshire County amounted to \$100 per year to the Bishop. In 1829 the church at Drewsville being in need of financial assistance, it was recommended to the Trustees of Donations for an appropriation.

After more than 20 years of passing resolutions, etc., the custody of the funds from the glebe lands was transferred to the Trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Church in New Hampshire who have since administered them.

#### ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, DREWSVILLE, N. H. by Rev. James Estes

The "Walpole Episcopalian Society" was incorporated in 1816 with the following charter members: Thomas Drew, Moses and Aaron Southard, Ira White, Stephen Johnson, Jacob Putnam, Joseph Field, Nehemiah Chandler, Holland Burt, and Nehemiah Royce. At the first meeting called at the home of Thomas Drew on April 7, 1817, the society chose officers and committees to procure subscription money for the support of an Episcopal clergyman. Also, at this meeting, by-laws for the society were drawn up and rudimentary plans were laid out for the investigation of steps that would lead to the erection of a church building. Within three years this society became known as St. Peter's Church, although for some time services were held either in the schoolhouse or in the hall of Thomas Drew, located over his residence on Main Street. There was no resident clergyman in these early years.

The first Rector was the Rev. George Richardson, who was also in charge of the society at Charlestown and who began his missionary work in the diocese in 1825 while still a young man. Mr. Richardson contracted a fatal disease in 1828 and died in March of 1829. In the same



year the Rev. Edward Ballard was appointed to officiate in the two parishes. He found two communicants in Drewsville and saw little hope for the growth of the parish. One factor that sustained the life of St. Peter's was the prospect of reclaiming certain of the old glebe lands from which an income could be derived if occasional services were held in the village. Mr. Ballard left the diocese in 1832.

On September 20, 1834, a meeting was held for the purposes of giving some serious consideration to the matter of the status of St. Peter's. A week later a meeting was held to inquire into the expediency of erecting a church building. A committee was appointed to look into the matter and report back at a meeting set for September 30. At that time it was voted to proceed with construction. Thomas Drew gave the land for the church building with the proviso that it should never be used for any other purpose. Thomas March Chase, Hope Lathrop, and William Belows were elected as a committee to superintend the building.

When the Rev. Luman Foote began his Drewsville ministry (yoked with Springfield, Vermont) in 1835, he found that construction had already begun on "a neat stone church, of the Gothic order". The cost of this building was met by a subsidy from the income of glebe lands and by a donation from St. John's Church in Portsmouth. On August 24, 1836, St. Bartholomew's Day, the Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold officiated at the consecration of St. Peter's Church. Some of the memorial gifts are noted as follows: the windows over the Altar were given by the Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D.D., Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, the Rt. Rev. Carlton Chase, D.D., first Bishop of New Hampshire, and the Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, a former Rector; the windows in the rear of the church were given by Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Wilcox and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Collins Drew; the Communion Service was given by Nathaniel Tucker. Bishop Griswold again visited St. Peter's in 1841, when he noted that the two parishes of Charlestown and Drewsville were still small. In the meantime Mr. Foote had left the diocese and was succeeded by the Rev. Edward Livermore who in turn was succeeded by the Rev. Eleazer A. Greenleaf.

In 1843 Mr. Greenleaf reported that a parsonage had been built and that, with twenty-four communicants, the outlook was encouraging. Two years later he was succeeded by the Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, who had in the past officiated at occasional services of worship. Shortly thereafter the history of the parish becomes sparse; but it is noted that in 1867 extensive repairs and alterations were made to the inside of the building at a cost of \$2000. In 1885, while the Rev. Edward A. Renouf was serving the



parish, 37 communicants were listed and there were 17 children in the Sunday School.

After the turn of the century, there was an increase of activity under the leadership of supply clergy and a few enthusiastic laymen. The Rev. Louis Reed assumed the responsibility of the parish in 1932, and in the next few years more repairs and changes were made. The old-fashioned lamps were electrified and the two wood stoves were replaced by a new oil furnace. The communicant strength was never too great, but the activity of the parish was remarkable. This trend continued until the early 1940's, when the increased mobility of the townspeople once again caused a decline in numbers. It was deemed advisable to close the parish down for the time being and it has never been reactivated. The physical plant has been maintained by the Diocese of New Hampshire with the hope that at some point it may be used as a Summer Chapel or as a Community Church.

#### ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WALPOLE—by Rev. James Estes

On July 27, 1862, the Rev. James H. Tyng, Rector of St. Peter's Church, conducted the first Episcopal service in the Town Hall in Walpole Village. Services were held there every Sunday until Fall, when the Methodist Chapel was hired for that purpose. On September 25, 1862, Mr. Tyng called a meeting of all interested parties at which time the following parish officers were elected: B. P. Spaulding, Senior Warden; George Huntington, Junior Warden; A. R. Johonnot, Clerk; and Dr. H. Wotkyns, Treasurer. Two days later the society was established under the name and title of "Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. John's Church, Walpole, N. H.". The incorporators were James L. Mitchell, B. P. Spaulding, George Huntington, H. Wotkyns, Ambrose Arnold, A. R. Johonnot, Henry W. S. Griswold. The parish was admitted to the Convention May 27, 1863.

Judge Josiah G. Bellows recalls the beginnings of the Episcopal society in the following manner: "At about the opening of the Civil War, in 1860-1861, two members of the Unitarian Church became much dissatisfied at the political preaching sometimes heard there, and thought it would be a good thing to start an Episcopal Church. Accordingly they persuaded one James L. Mitchell then one of the prominent hotel keepers in New York to purchase the Methodist Chapel, which had been secured for the Catholic Church but which had proved an unfortunate venture for that Church and the Episcopalians then proceeded to hold services there and for some five or six years continued their worship under the



direction of the Rev. Mr. Fisher. Business reverses overtook Mr. Mitchell. The Society was weak financially and Mr. Mitchell was compelled to sell the Chapel back to the Catholics."

The Rev. James H. Tyng left for the Diocese of New York on Easter of 1864 and was succeeded on May 7, 1865, by the Rev. F. S. Fisher, who served both St. Peter's and St. John's. This relationship between the two parishes was discontinued as of May 1, 1866, and three years later on February 3, 1869, Mr. Fisher resigned the rectorship of St. John's. For a decade the parish had no clergyman, and only infrequently were services held. During 1877-1878, some services were held over the Post Office, and from 1880 until 1900 occasional services were held in the Hall of Good Templars on the first floor of the Academy building.

During the Summer of 1900, a canvass of the town of Walpole was made by the Rev. Messrs. Parker, Lay and Dow of the Diocese of New Hampshire. As a direct result of this work St. John's parish was reorganized in May of 1901, and the Rev. Charles S. Hale conducted services for some months. At first the services were held in the parlor of the Elmwood and then later in a room over F. A. Spaulding's store which was rented and fitted out for this purpose.

On August 1, 1902, Hudson E. Bridge presented the parish with land on which to erect a church building as a memorial to his daughter Katherine. On August 21, 1902, the ground was broken; and nearly a year later on August 16, 1903, the first service was held in the new church building. Following the morning service, the corner stone was laid. Three weeks later, on Saturday, September 5, 1903, the building was consecrated as St. John's Church by the Rt. Rev. William W. Niles, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of New Hampshire. Bishop Niles was assisted in the service by Canon Bryan of Garden City, L. I., the Rev. Dr. E. A. Renouf and the Rev. Alfred H. Wheeler of Keene, the Rev. E. M. Parker and the Rev. George W. Lay of St. Paul's School, Concord, the Rev. C. J. Shrimpton of Athol, Mass., the Rev. D. L. Sanford of Bellows Falls, the Rev. Dr. Waterman and the Rev. W. B. T. Smith of Charlestown, the Rev. Mr. Dow of Wakefield and the Rev. Mr. Ticknor of Claremont. Mrs. Helen W. Doolittle of St. James Church, Keene, and the St. James choir assisted with the music.

Some of the furnishings and memorial gifts are described in the September 12, 1903 issue of *The Walpole Gazette* as follows: "The furnishings are rich and substantial. There are ten oak pews and a carved oak pulpit at the right of the chancel. The Estey organ, in a handsome colonial oak case, was the gift of Mrs. Hudson E. Bridge. The church



furnishings comprise the following articles presented by members of the parish and friends: a brass cross and brass candlesticks for the altar from Admiral and Mrs. H. B. Robeson; a pair of brass altar vases from Miss Willard and Mr. John H. Williams; a brass altar book rest from Mrs. and Miss Tobey; a solid silver communion set in four pieces from Mrs. Harrison P. Bridge as a memorial of her husband; a burse and veil from Rev. W. B. T. Smith of Charlestown; an oak hymn board from Mrs. E. K. Seabury; a brass lectern from Mrs. Bolivar Lovell in memory of her husband; an altar service book as a memorial of her husband from Mrs. James L. Mitchell; a chancel prayer book and hymnal from Mrs. Maria Louise Kendall; a carved stone font and brass cover from Mrs. Emma Bridge Chapman; an oak credence shelf from Mrs. N. W. Holland; a lectern Bible from Mr. J. E. Williams, Jr., of St. Louis, Mo.; an oak prayer desk, a memorial from Mr. and Mrs. John H. Williams. The carved oak chairs for the chancel were presented by Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Bridge. The handsome brass chandelier was the gift of Mr. Charles H. Crump of Boston." The stained-glass window over the altar was given as a memorial to Helen and Hudson Bridge.

On the following Sunday morning, September 6, 1903, Bishop Niles delivered the sermon and confirmed the following persons: Hudson Eliot Bridge, Edwin K. Seabury, Helen A. Wotkyns, Grace F. Sherman, Roy Simpson Burt, Ida Burt, Lucy Cobb, and Miller Deal. There was also a vesper service that day, conducted also by Bishop Niles and Canon Bryan.

A year later, during the rectorship of the Rev. Robert Merriman, work began on a combined parish house and gymnasium. This building, attached to the church building, was dedicated on September 11, 1905, and work was completed in May of the following year. This was the first gymnasium in Walpole Village and was used for both parish and community activities.

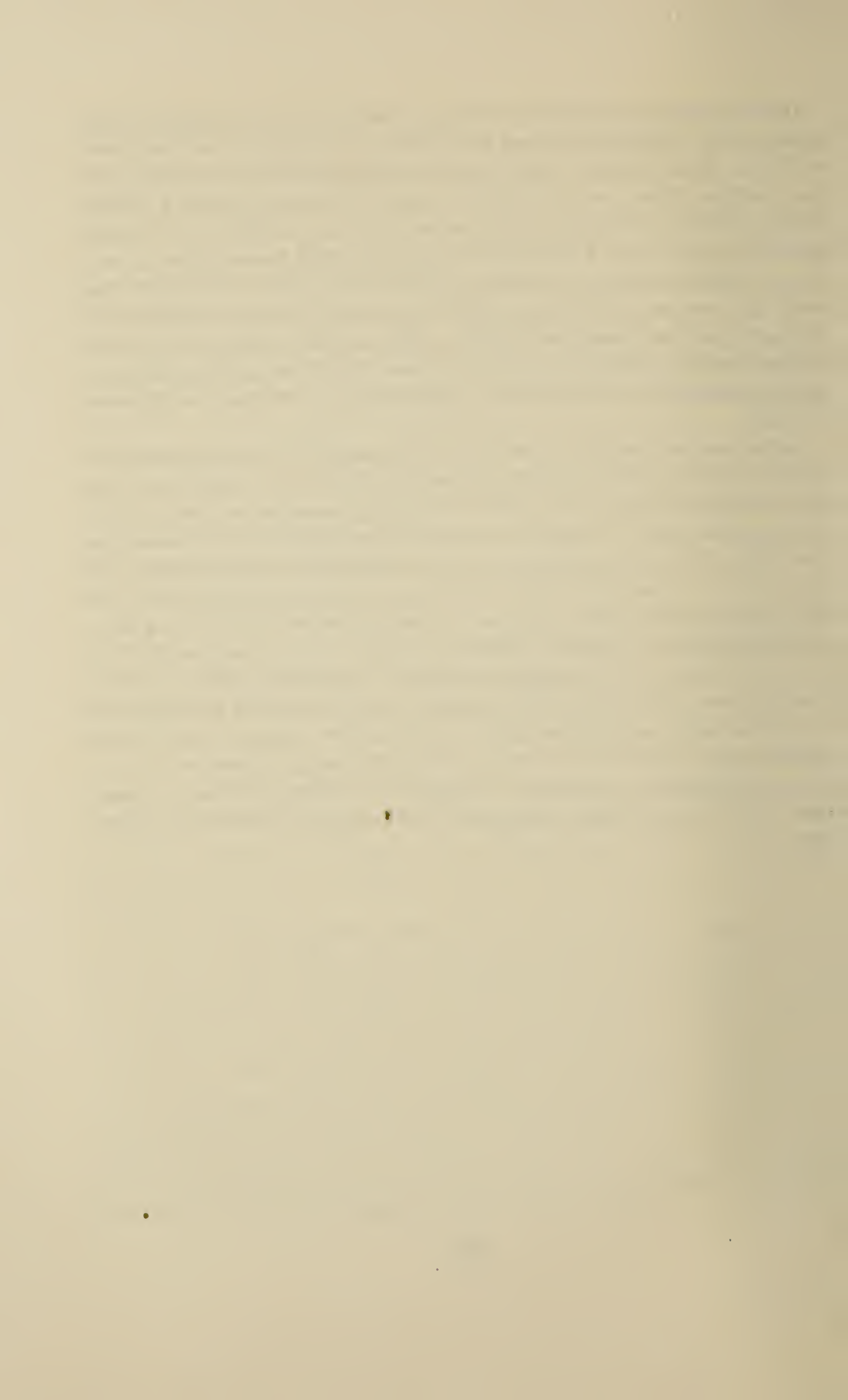
In 1917, St. John's Church assumed the role of a Summer mission; and, from 1921 through 1931, there were only a few services a year (held in the months of July and August). In 1932, the Rev. Louis Reed assumed the responsibility of St. John's as one of four mission churches under his direction as rector. Mr. Reed lived in Charlestown and conducted a service at St. John's each Sunday—usually in the afternoon. Occasionally there were visiting clergy and sometimes a seminarian would take the services during the Summer months. In this manner the parish maintained a reasonably active worship life; the Wardens saw to the repairs of the physical plant; and the women in the parish organized occasional programs and sales for budgetary and social purposes.



In the late winter of 1961, steering committees from St. John's, Walpole, and St. James, Keene, met under the encouragement and direction of the Rt. Rev. Charles F. Hall to discuss the possibilities of yoking the two parishes. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that a clergyman should be called to serve the two parishes. He would live in Walpole and divide his time as Curate of both parishes. The Rector of St. James, Keene, would assume the titular rectorship of St. John's and oversee the work that was to be done there. Thus the Rector, the Rev. Chandler H. McCarty, and the combined Vestries called the Rev. James G. Estes to assume the duties of the new curacy. Mr. and Mrs. Estes took up residence in the rectory (formerly called the parish house) at Walpole in September 1961.

In the ensuing months, a concerted effort was made to rejuvenate the overall structure of St. John's. A Church School was opened, and an Every Member Canvass was conducted. The gymnasium was refurbished and provided with a heating plant and in November was rededicated as the Parish Hall to be used for the educational and social activities of the parish. In January of 1962 the Annual Meeting was held and the following men were either returned or elected: Senior Warden, G. Leighton Bridge; Junior Warden, Clifford A. Foster; Clerk, Stephen B. Williams; Treasurer, Donald MacNaughtan; Vestrymen, John Crehore, Francis Wood, Chester Rouillard, James H. Smith, Mark B. Howard, and F. W. MacLean. In late Spring Mr. MacNaughtan resigned and Caswell Menard was appointed Treasurer. A new Hammond Spinet organ was given as a memorial to George A. Fogg, Lois T. Motte, Pauline F. Huggan, and Major H. Eliot Bridge and dedicated on Thanksgiving Day 1962.







## APPENDIX

## MASSACHUSETTS GRANT:

Conditions of grants by Massachusetts 1735-6: To lay out 63 lots; to settle 60 families within 3 years; each family to build a house at least 18 ft. square and 7 ft. stud; to clear, fence and bring under cultivation 6 a.; to set aside a lot for the minister and a lot for the school; to build a meeting house; to settle an orthodox minister within 3 yrs. Sometimes bonds of £20 to £40 were required.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE GRANT:

## WALPOLE CHARTER, 1752

## Province of New Hampshire

George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Brittain France & Ireland King de-  
fender of the faith &c<sup>a</sup>

To ALL Persons to whom these Presents Shall Come Greeting

Know Ye that We of our Especial Grace Certain knowledge & Mere Motion for the due Encouragement of Settling A New Plantation within our S<sup>d</sup> Province By & with the Advice of Our Trusty & well beloved Benning Wentworth Esq our Governour & Com'ander in Chieff of our S<sup>d</sup> Province of New Hampshire in America & of our Council of the Said Province have upon the Conditions and reservations hereafter made Given & Granted & By these Presents for us our heirs & Successors do give & Grant in Equal Shares unto our Loving Subjects inhabitants of our Said Province of New Hampshire & his Maj<sup>ty</sup>s Other Governments and to their heirs and Assignes for ever whose names Are Entered on this Grant to be Divided to and Amongst them into Sixty Seven Equal Shares All that Tract or Parcel of Land Scituate Lying & being within our Province of New Hampshire Containing by Admeasurement twenty three thousand and forrty Acres which Tract is to Contain Six Miles Square & no more out of which an Allowance is to be made for high ways and unimprovable Lands by Rocks Mountains Ponds & Rivers One thousand & forty Acres free According to A Plan thereof made & Presented by our Said Governour's orders & hereunto Annexed Butted & bounded As follows—(Viz)—Beginning at the Stake & Stones near Connecticut River which is the North West Corner of Westmoreland from thence extending Northerly by Connecticut River to the South West Corner of a Tract of Land Called Number four from thence to Extend South Seventy Eight Degrees East And A Line from the first Bounds mentioned of the Same Course (Viz) South Seventy Eight Degrees East each line so far as to Include the Contents of Six miles Square between the Said River & A North & South Line by the Needle on the East closing the bounds Afore Said and that the Same be & is incorporated into a Township by the name of Walpole and that the Inhabitants that do or Shall Hereafter Inhabit Said Township Are hereby Declared to be Enfranchised with and Entituled to all & every the Previledges & Immunities that Other Towns within our Said Province by Law Exercize & Enjoy & further that the Said Town as soon as there Shall be fifty families resident & Settled thereon Shall have the Liberty of holding Two fairs one of which Shall be held on the \_\_\_\_\_ And the other on the \_\_\_\_\_ Annually which Fairs Are not to Continue & be held Longer than the respective \_\_\_\_\_ following the Said respective Days and As Soon as the Said Town Shall Consist of fifty families a market Shall be Opend & kept one or more days in Each week as may be tho<sup>t</sup> most Advantagious to the Inhabitants also that the first meeting



for the Choice of Town officers Agreeable to the Laws of our Said Province Shall be held on the Third Wednesday in March next which meeting Shall be notyfed by Benjamin Bellows who is hereby Also Appointed y<sup>e</sup>. Moderator of the Said first meeting which he is to Notify & Govern Agreeable to the Laws & Customs of our Said Province And that the Annual Meeting for ever hereafter for the Choice of Such Officers of Said Town Shall be on the third Wednesday in March Annually To have & to hold the Said Tract of Land as above Expressed Togeather with all the Preveiledges and Appurtinances to them & their respective heirs & Assigns for ever upon the following Conditions (Viz)—that every Grantee his heirs or Assigns Shall Plant or Cultivate five Acres of Land within the Term of five Years for every fifty Acres Containd in his or their Share or Proportion of Land in S<sup>d</sup> Township & Continue to Improve & Settle the Same by Additional Cultivations on Penalty of the forfeiture of his Grant or Share in the S<sup>d</sup> Township & its reverting to his Maj<sup>ty</sup> his heirs & Successors to be by him or them regranted to Such of his Subjects as Shall Effectually Settle & Cultivate the Same That all white & other Pine Trees within the Said Township fit for Masting our Royal Navy be carefully Preserved for that use & none to be Cut or felld without his Majesties Especial Lycence for So doing first had & obtained upon the Penalty of the forfeiture of the right of Such Grantee his heirs & Assignes to us our heirs & Successors, as well as being Subject to the Penalty of any Act or Acts of Parliament that now Are or hereafter Shall be Enacted That before any Divission of the Said Lands be made to And Amongst the Grantees A Trace of Land as near the Center of the Township as the Land will Admit of Shall be reserved & marked out for Town Lotts one of which Shall be Allotted to Each Grantee of the Contents of One Acre Yielding & Paying therefor to us our heirs & Successors for the Space of Ten years to be Computed from the Date hereof the rent of one Ear of Indian Corn only on the first Day of Jan<sup>ry</sup> Annually if Lawfully Demanded the first Payment to be made On the first day of January next following the Date hereof Every Proprietor Settler or Inhabitant Shall Yield & Pay unto us our heirs & Successors Yearly & Every year forever from And After the Expiration of the ten Years from the Date hereof namely on the first Day of January which will be in the Year of our Lord Christ One thousand Seven hundred & Sixty Two One Shilling Proclamation money for every hundred Acres he so owns Settles or Possesses & So in Proportion for a Greater or Lesser Tract of the Said Land which money Shall be paid by the respective persons abovesaid their heirs or Assigns In our Council Chamber in Portsmouth or Such officer or officers as Shall be appointed to receive the Same And this to be in Lieu of all other rents & Services whatsoever In Testimony hereof We have Caused the seal of our Said Province to be hereunto Affixed Wittness Benning Wentworth Esq our Governour & Commander in Chieff of our s<sup>d</sup> Province the thirteenth of Feb<sup>ry</sup> in the Year of our Lord Christ 1752 and in the Twenty fifth year of Our Reign—

B Wentworth

By his Excellencys Com'and  
with Advice of Council

Theodore Atkinson Sec<sup>ry</sup>

Entred & recorded According to the Original Charter und<sup>r</sup> the Province Seal the 13<sup>th</sup>  
Day of Feb<sup>ry</sup> 1752

Theodore Atkinson Sec<sup>ry</sup>

The Names of the Grantees of Walpole—Viz—

Benjamin Bellows  
Joshua Moor  
John Sterns  
Benjamin Gary  
Amos Kimbal  
William Sterns

Robert Clerk  
Joseph Goodridge  
Moses Gould jun<sup>r</sup>  
Benjamin Taylor  
Benjamin Bellows jun<sup>r</sup>  
John Averil

Jerahmeel Powers  
John Taylor  
Jonathan Bradstreet jun<sup>r</sup>  
John Darling jun<sup>r</sup>  
Thomas Brown  
Joseph Win



William Nutting  
 Ebenezer Harris  
 Levi Willard  
 Thomas Sterns  
 Timothy Bancroft  
 Ephraim Kimbel  
 John Litch  
 John Spafford  
 Nehemiah Gould  
 Jonathan Wetherby  
 Samuel Johnson jun<sup>r</sup>  
 Timothy Harrington  
 Stanton Prentice

Samuel Moor  
 Joseph Bellows  
 Moses Gould  
 Paul Crocker  
 William Spear  
 Joseph Blodget jun<sup>r</sup>  
 John Darling  
 Abijah Willard  
 Abel Willard  
 Samuel Gibbs  
 Samuel Hunt  
 Paul Wetherby  
 Jonathan Willard

Barzilia Willard  
 Caleb Willard  
 Peter Bellows  
 William Down  
 Abijah Sterns  
 John Bellows  
 Jonah Moor  
 Joseph Sterns  
 Benjamin Sterns  
 John Russell  
 Sampson French  
 Joshua Willard

His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq one Tract of Land to Contain Five Hundred Acres which is to be accounted two of the S<sup>d</sup> Shares, one whole Share for the Incorporated Society for the Propagateing the Gospel in Foreign Partes One whole Share for the first Settled Minister of the Gospel in S<sup>d</sup> Town, One whole Share for A Glebe for the ministry of the Church of England as by Law Established,—Theodore Atkinson, Richard Wibird, Samuel Smith, John Downing Sampson Sheaffe John Wentworth jun<sup>r</sup>—

Attest<sup>r</sup> Theodore Atkinson Se<sup>ry</sup>

Entred & recorded from the Back of the Charter for Walpole this 13<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>ry</sup> 1752  
 Theodore Atkinson Sec<sup>ry</sup>

*On the original charter there was a plan with the following notations:*

“Plan of Walpole 600 Rods in an Inch”

North line “S 78° East 3 miles& 100 Rods”

East Line “Nine Miles North by the Needle”

South Line “S 78° East 5 miles & 10 Rods

the Dividing Line between Westmoreland  
 & Walpole”

West line “Part of Connecticut River” The island is shown.

*The charter was renewed March 12, 1761 because “the s<sup>d</sup> Grantees have represented that by the Intervention of an Indian War since making the Said Grant impracticable to comply with & fullfill the Conditions afores<sup>d</sup> . . .”*

*The above is from STATE PAPERS NEW HAMPSHIRE by Batchellor Vol. XXV Town Charters Vol. II, pp. 593-8. This same source gives a bibliography of material on Walpole.*



## BELLOWS-ATKINSON AGREEMENT

“Memorandum of an Agreement and Partition made this ninth day of September Anno Domini one Thousand seven Hundred and Sixty six between Theodore Atkinson of Portsmouth in the Prov. of N. H. Esq. and Benj. Bellows of Walpole in said Prov. Esq. Whereas the sd Parties are now Tenants in Common in a certain Tract or Tracts of Land lying and being in the Township of Walpole aforesd, two thirds of which Lands belongeth to the sd Benjamin and one third part to the sd Theodore and the Parties having agreed to make a severance have and by these Presents do agree that all the Lands in the several Places hereafter mentioned shall and are hereby set off as the Share and Proportion of the sd Theodore Atkinson and to be accounted his part and held by him in severalty Viz/ Two Thousand seven Hundred and Sixty four acres lying and being on the Easterly Line of sd Township of Walpole beginning at a tree marked for the South East corner two miles North of the South East corner of sd township marked on the East Line of sd Town and runs North by the needle nine Hundred and Sixty rods to a tree marked being the North East corner then runs West twelve Degrees North one Hundred and Seventy rods to the corner of Lot No. one in the Easternmost Range of Lots in sd Township then runs South thirty-five Degrees West on the East Range of Lots seven Hundred and twenty rods to a Lot of James Bundy then on the East Line of that Lot and the other Lot as the Line runs to the Road that leads to Keene then Easterly on sd Road about Eighty rods to a white ash tree marked by sd Road then runs East twelve Degrees South to the first mentioned corner as may be seen by the Plan of sd Town. Also another Piece of Land in sd Township Containing Two Thousand and Twenty-eight acres and lyeth toward the North part of sd Town beginning at a tree marked at the East Line of sd Town and runs West twelve Degrees North Eight Hundred and forty rods to a corner then runs North one Hundred rod then runs West twelve Degrees North to Connecticut River then runs up sd River two Hundred and Twenty rod to a white oak marked against the Great Falls then runs East twelve Degrees South three Mile and one-half to the Town Line then run South one Mile to the first mentioned corner. Also one Thousand acres of said Land lying on Connecticut River and begins at a stump marked and runs South four Hundred and Eighty rods to a tree marked then runs West seventeen Degrees North three Hundred rod to the River then runs up sd River about two Miles to a tree marked then runs East thirty-five rod to sd Stump first mentioned. Also one Certain Island called the Great Island and contains about Ten acres. And that all the residue of the Lands in sd Township Except the Publick Lots and Governor’s Farm be and hereby is set off as the two thirds of the sd Benjamin’s to all which the sd Theodore and Benjamin has agreed to hold in severalty to them and their Heirs and Assigns forever. To which Agreement and Division we have hereunto set to our Hands and Seals the Day and Year above sd.

Signed Sealed & Delivered  
In Presence of

}

Theodore Atkinson (seal)  
B. Bellows (seal)

James Stoodly  
Peter Merry

}

Prov. of New Hamp. Sept. 10th 1766  
Then the above mentioned Theodore Atkinson  
and Benjamin Bellows acknowledged the above  
instrument to be their Act and Deed respectively  
before me.

James Stoodly Jus. Peace.

Received & Recorded 4th September 1770

D. Pierce Red.



## COPY OF THE LAST WILL OF COL. BENJAMIN BELLOWS.

"In the Name of God, Amen:

"I, Benjamin Bellows, of Walpole, in the County of Cheshire and State of New Hampshire, Esq., being of health of body . . . and, first of all, I give and bequeath to my beloved wife, Mary Bellows, the improvement of the one third part of my now dwelling-house, and the third part of my now improved lands in Walpole, with the improvement of my barn on the east side of the road, so long as she, the said Mary, shall continue my widow. I also give to my said wife one yoke of oxen, three cows, and one horse, which she shall please to choose out of my stock; also a cart, plough, yoke, and chain, all which she is to have the improvement of during her life, these then to be returned, or the like stock, to my children; and I further give to my said wife one third part of all my household furniture, to be set off to her to dispose of as she shall think fit amongst my children as she shall see cause. I also give her a side-saddle and bridle, and fifty pounds lawful money, to be paid her when she shall call for the same; and if my said wife shall see cause to marry, then the improvement of my house and lands to return to my children, that is, willed to her, she has done with them, and in lieu thereof, to have a hundred dollars per year, paid her by my children, to be equally divided, that is, about eleven dollars each per year.

"Imprimis. I give to my well-beloved son, Peter Bellows, and his children, . . . six hundred acres of land in Walpole, and lyeth above the Great Falls on Connecticut River; said land lyeth in Walpole, and bounds west on said river; north on land called the Governor's Farm; east on my own land, and south on land of Col. Atkinson. . . with one yoke of oxen, two cows, and a horse, and one hundred pounds in cash, to be laid out to finish his house, and fifty pounds to cloathe his family.

"Impr. I give and bequeath to my well-beloved son, Benjamin Bellows, four hundred acres of land in Walpole; bounded south on the town line; west on land sold to one Burt and one Fisk; north on land sold to William Smeed; east on land of Booth, Nicholas, and Maj'r Richardson . . . together with what I have given him by deed, and the fourth part of all my estate which may be left, not disposed of after my estate is settled and paid out all legacies; also I give him one hundred pounds for his trouble in settling my estate; and I further give him one yoke of oxen, two cows, and a horse.

"Impr. I give to my well-beloved son, John Bellows, a certain piece of land in Walpole aforesaid, and contains about four hundred acres, be the same more or less; and it begins at the north-east corner of a hundred acre lot given him by deed, and to run north ten degrees; east till it comes to the south line of Col. Atkinson's land; then runs west on Col. Atkinson's land till it comes to what he has a deed of, till it comes to Connecticut River; and I further give him four hundred acres of land east of the line given heretofore, to lye in a square form, where he shall pitch the same, and this . . . with what I have heretofore given him deed of, to be his full part and share in my estate, except one yoke of oxen, two cows, and a horse, which is to be given out of my stock.

"Impr. I give to my well-beloved son, Joseph Bellows (land in other towns) . . . with one yoke of oxen, two cows, and a horse . . . out of my stock.

"Impr. I give to my well-beloved daughter, Abigail Bellows, my house and land I bought of Moses Brown, on the east side of the road to Westmoreland; as also fifty acres of the lot Denison lives on, on the south side, and about twenty-three acres adjoining, called "Mepas" lot, which land I give to her and heirs of her body for ever, not to be disposed of out of the family. Said lands contain about one hundred and thirty acres, the house, and the house Doctor Ashley lives in. I do also give . . . the one third part of all my household furniture after my decease, to be kept for her till she comes to the age of twenty-one or marries . . . further give her the sixth part of all my personal estate that shall be left after my estate is settled . . . further give forty acres of land, being the land Daniel Bixby lives on . . . bounded north on land of



Aaron Hodgskins; west on land of Delano; south on lands of Hinds; east on Bundy. Also . . . one yoke of oxen, two cows, and a horse, and one hundred pounds in money.

“Impr. I give to my well-beloved son, Theodore Bellows, about eighty acres of meadow land and about two hundred acres of upland, lying adjoining to the land given to John Bellows, and south of his land, beginning at an oak stump in the corner of John Bellows’s land fence, and runs north, as the fence runs to the river, about twenty-six rods; then runs down by the river about one hundred and fifty rods to a walnut tree, marked near the end of the ditch; then runs on the ditch; goes through the meadow to the end of the ditch; then to run east by the needle about four hundred rods to the line of John Bellows’s land to a white oak tree, marked for a corner; then to run north on John Bellows’s land . . . to a corner, being a white oak; then to run west on his land to first-mentioned stump. And I also give about two hundred and forty acres to my said son Theodore, called my great pasture, bounded west on land of Col. Atkinson; south on land of Jona’n Hall; east partly on land of Babcock and the road as it is now fenced; and north on land of John Bellows; and I further give . . . three hundred pounds in money . . . to help him build a house and barn . . . and the fourth part of what estate shall be left, both real and personal, in Walpole . . . also one yoke of oxen, two cows, and one horse, also a cart, yoke, and chain.

“Impr. I give to my beloved son, Thomas Bellows, about three hundred and fifty acres of land and meadow in Walpole with all the buildings thereon, being the house and land I now live on and improve, reserving to his mother the part I heretofore willed her. Said land begins at the walnut tree marked, at the river at the end of the ditch being the south-west corner of Theodore’s land, and runs down the river one hundred and twenty rods to a walnut stump . . . near the lower fence; then runs east through the meadow till it comes to the meadow fence; then runs south about twenty rods . . . to a corner; then runs east to a great white pine, so as to take the spring, and so to continue east by the needle till it comes to the line of John Bellows land; then runs northerly on said John’s land . . . to the southeast corner of Theodore’s land; then runs west by Theodore’s land to the east end of the ditch, so on the ditch to first-mentioned corner . . . and I further give to said son Thomas three hundred acres of land on the east line of said town, to begin at Col. Atkinson’s corner; and run south to the end of the lots laid out, being about two hundred and sixty rods; then to run west as the lot lyeth and on Col. Atkinson’s till it makes three hundred acres . . . and fourth part of the estate I shall leave undisposed of in Walpole, and I give him one yoke of oxen, two cows, and a horse, also a cart, yoke, and chain.

“Impr. I give to my well-beloved daughter, Molley Bellows (land in Westminster) . . . I also give to my said daughter the one third part of all my household furniture, which I shall leave to be set off to her, and kept safe by my executors for her till she comes to the age of twenty-one or marries, . . . and one yoke of oxen, two cows, and a horse, and one hundred pounds in money, which is her part of my estate.

“Impr. I give to my well-beloved son, Josiah Bellows, about four hundred acres of land and meadow in Walpole, and beginning at a walnut stump being the south-west corner of Thomas Bellows’s land, and runs south on the river till it comes to land of Doctr. Chase; then east on said Chase’s land and runeth to the meetinghouse land; thence on that and land of Mr. Sparhawk and Mr. Fessenden to the north end of his land; then runs east by said Fessenden’s land to land Trotts; then on land of John Kilburn; then on land till it comes to Moses Stearns; then on land of Stearns about northwest to a road; then on said road till it comes to Thomas Bellows; then west on his land to firstmentioned corner by the river. Also a lot of land, called Jonathan Jennison’s lot, being about one hundred acres, and bounded south on land of Mr. Sparhawk, west on Kilbourn’s and north on Hartwell, east on Bordman . . . also three hundred pounds in money, to help him build a house and barn; and I further give him the fourth



part of all my lands which is not here willed, and the fourth part of my personal estate not disposed of, and one yoke of oxen, two cows, and a horse, and a cart, yoke and chain.

“Impr. I give to the town of Walpole one hundred acres of land in Walpole for the use of a Grammar School to be kept at the School house near where the meeting house now stands, provided the town will clear and put under improvement sixty acres of the land in six years, which improvement is to be let for the use of said school and no other use made thereof; said land to be laid out by a committee, where it is not heretofore disposed of.

“Impr. I give to my daughter in law, Mary Willard, (land in Keene).

“Impr. I give to my son in law, John Jennison, fifty acres of land in Walpole, north of the road to Alstead, in a good form, to be laid where he shall pitch the same between the road and Col. Atkinson’s land, not before disposed of, for one of his sons.

“Impr. I give to my son in law, Jonathan Jennison, a cow and heifer two years old, and what money he owes to me . . .

“In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty-third day of June, Anno Domini 1777.

“Signed, pronounced and declared this my last will and testament in presence of Elisha Harding.

B. Bellows (Seal)

Martin Ashley  
Joseph Douglas

The foregoing will was proved in the usual form by

Thos. Sparhawk, J. Probate.

Recorded by Ichabod Fisher, Redgr. Probate.”



# PURCHASERS OF PEWS IN NEW MEETINGHOUSE ON PROSPECT HILL (1792)

## First Floor—

Amasa Allen	3	John French	1	John Mc Farland	1
Nathaniel Baker	1	Asa Gage	1	Minister's Pew	1
Benj. Bellows	13	Const. Gilman	1	Thomas Parker	1
John Bellows	2	Josiah Goldsmith	2	Geo. Sparhawk	1
Thomas Bellows	1	John Graves, Jr.	1	Thos. Sparhawk	2
Asahel Bundy	1	John Griswold	1	Ephraim Stearns	1
Isaac Bundy	1	David Hogg	1	Sylvanus Titus	1
Nathan Bundy	1	Abraham Holland	1	Nicanor Townsley	1
John Dennison	1	Levi Hooper	1	Samuel Trott	1
Nathan Dennison	1	Jonas Hosmer	1	Roger Walcott	1
Manoah Drury	2	Levi Hubbard	1	Christopher Webber	1
Roger Farnham	1	John Jennison	2	Daniel Whipple	1
John Flint	1	Jona. Jennison	1	Thomas Fessenden	1
Eliphalet Fox	1	Dr. Kittredge	1	Jona. Royce	1

## Upper Floor—

Benj. Bellows	1	James Eastman	1	Peletiah Hall	1
Col. Bellows	2	Timothy Eaton	1	Abraham Holland	1
Isaac Bundy	1	Benj. Flood	1	Jonas Hosmer	1
Amos Butterfield	1	Elisha Fullam	4	John Jennison	1
Daniel Dennison	1	Const. Gilman	1	Daniel Merriam	1
Manoah Drury	3	Jona. Hall, Jr.	1	Nicanor Townsley	1



**SOLDIERS IN INDIAN WARS:**

John Kilburn

Col. Benjamin Bellows

**REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS IN WALPOLE CEMETERY:**

Ebenezer Wellington	Gen. Benjamin Bellows	Ephraim Stearns
Gen. Amasa Allen	Dea. Jonas Hosmer	Moses Burt
Col. Joseph Bellows	Capt. Phineas Hutchins	Palatiah Hall
Lt. Aaron Hodskins	Col. Christopher Webber	Cornelius Warren
Samuel Salter	John Denison	Jeduthan Russell
Thomas Russell	Lt. Roger Wolcott	Daniel Marsh
Aaron Graves	Nathaniel Baker	Eliphalet Fox
Asahel Bundy	Lt. Elias Bundy	Lt. Isaac Bundy
Capt. Levi Hooper	Jonathan Hall	David Hall
Elisha Hall	Capt. John Jennison	Capt. Joseph Fay
Jonathan Fletcher	Col. John Bellows	Dea. Roger Farnham
Lt. Gilbert Griswold	Capt. Benjamin Floyd	Alexander Watkins

**IN DREWSVILLE CEMETERY:**

Thomas Nichols

**OTHER REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS CONNECTED WITH WALPOLE:**

Ens. Ebenezer Swan	Lt. Samuel Nichols	Ens. Joseph Lawrence
Surg. Martin Ashley	Jonathan Hall, Jr.	——— Crain
——— Fay	——— DeBell	John Merriam, Jr.
Timothy Messer	John Massey	Joseph Mason, Sr.
John Howland	John Kilburn	John Martin
Uzziah Wyman	Wm. Lathwood	James Campbell
Moses Mead	Theodore Bellows	

**ACTUAL RESIDENTS OF WALPOLE ENLISTING IN WAR OF REBELLION:**

John M. Pike	Clement G. Lane	Otis P. Kraetzer
Edward R. Pratt	Chas. H. Gilbert	Henry Reason
Samuel F. Holbrook	Charles H. Brown	Albert T. Wilkins
J. Wesley Barnet	Wilson W. Colburn	John M. Bixby
Lewis Hooper	Frank B. Graves	Patrick Hyde
George Weymouth	John F. Kraetzer	Chas. Moultrup
Bellows Emerson	George Perigo	John J. Johnson
George R. Tower	Elnathan R. Templeman	Austin H. Wolf
Albert D. Scovill	John L. Hubbard	Jonathan Turner
Warren D. Fay	Dennis Griffin	Ellery C. Benson
John B. Hooper	Geo. H. Bellows	Amasa T. Bundy
Charles Hinds	Lucius B. Wright	<b>Benjamin Gates, 2d</b>
Quincy A. Emerson	Chandler A. Wilber	Alfred G. Keyes
James Stack	Charles H. Jennison	Edward H. Livingston
George M. Snow	Chas. A. Green	Geo. A. Sherman
William Flynn	Wm. A. Barker	Geo. S. Wetherby
Eugene Henderson	Willard E. S. Bragg	Edward Carpenter
John E. Mitchell	John S. Farnsworth	Charles Lawrence
John L. Houghton	Henry H. Hooper	Isaiah Pratt
A. Mason Adams		



PERSONS ENLISTING IN REGIMENTS OUT OF STATE  
BUT CREDITED TO WALPOLE:

Owen Burns	Henry G. Irish	Leonard Lawrence
John Faxon	William Livingston	Edward Weymouth
Patrick Tole	Ferdinand Smith	George Bellows
Edward Bellows	Charles Titus	Perley Tower
Charles Isham	Julius Kraetzer	Frederick Graves
Curtis Emery	Walter Mellish	Ira R. Graves
John W. Keyes	Hubbard B. Newton	

WAR OF REBELLION SOLDIERS RESIDING IN WALPOLE 1895:

Henry C. Bandell	Jas. T. Holmes	Hubbard Newton
Wm. J. Hall	John L. Hubbard	Robert W. Walsh
1st Lt. Waldo F. Hayward	Henry C. Podwin	Harry Thomas
Lucius S. Howe	Geo. Weymouth	Michael O'Connell
Chas. H. Knapp	Jos. L. Sylvester	Edward Moran
Wm. Warn	Dennis Griffin	L. S. Howe
1st Lt. Geo. L. Kibbe	Wm. S. Hawks	Leander Harriman
Leonard S. Cady	John L. Houghton	Rhodolphus Clement
Sgt. Chas. W. Hathaway		

WAR OF REBELLION SOLDIERS BURIED IN WALPOLE:

Jacob S. Pierce	Isaiah Pratt	George Gassett
John F. Kraetzer	Geo. A. Fuller	J. Wesley Barnett
Geo. W. Fisher	John S. Farnsworth	Benj. J. Lawrence
Oscar W. Rogers	H. H. Hooper	Wm. A. Barker
Leonard W. Lawrence	Edward H. Livingston	Benj. Gates, 2d
Ira R. Graves	Warren Dana Fay	Chas. H. Titus
Russell Hutchins	John E. Mitchell	Clement Holt
Richard Knapp	Lt. W. F. Hooper	Ira W. Hooper
Henry G. Irish		

PERSONS SERVING IN WORLD WAR I FROM WALPOLE:

Lt. Copley Amory, Jr.	John F. Amory	Lt. Walter W. Amory
Robert S. Ball	Harry J. Barry	John M. Blake
Joseph Blake	James Blake	Peter T. Blake
Lt. Thomas J. Brickley	Nelson Brown	Glenn T. Boynton
Henry Burrows, Jr.	Francis M. Cahalane	Gerald Carroll
Thomas W. Carroll	William J. Carroll	Harold T. Cheney
Raymond W. Cheney	Corp. Burton M. Clough	Harold J. Coffey
Lawrence G. Cole	Corp. Theodore Cole	Capt. Willie P. Craig, M.D.
Thomas J. Crowley	Tony Crozansky	John M. Delaney
Francis Donegan	William F. Donegan	Elmer D. Ellis
Ernest Fitzgerald	George Fitzgerald	John P. Flavin
Joseph P. Gallagher	Colgate Gilbert	Patrick Griffin
Ernest Hamilton	Edward J. Hankard	John J. Hankard
Basil E. Harvey	Corp. Edward A. Houghton	Edward C. Howard
Oliver J. Hubbard	Lt. Edward L. Journey	James H. Keane
James R. Keefe	John F. Keefe	John J. Keefe
Patrick J. Keefe	William T. Keefe	Timothy T. Kennedy



Thomas P. Kennedy  
 Vlastow Kotoloski  
 Joseph Lyons  
 Charles J. McLaughlin  
 Rodger Moynihan  
 Hector F. Nivison  
 William F. O'Brien\*  
 Frederick F. Owens  
 William J. Pierce\*  
 William C. Riley  
 Fred J. Shaughnessy  
 Sgt. Lawrence M. Smith  
 Stanley Stanick  
 John W. Taylor  
 William P. Usher  
 Lester Warren  
 Louis D. Wheeler  
 John N. Wolfe

William P. Kennedy  
 Sgt. Claude Lindstrom  
 John J. Mahoney  
 Edward W. Millerick\*  
 Sgt. Edward H. Murray  
 Edward P. O'Brien  
 William L. O'Brien  
 Norman A. Parkinson  
 Albert H. Pyne\*  
 Lt. (Rev.) Lewis W. Sanford  
 Capt. Lee L. Smalley  
 Ernest L. Snow  
 Burton M. Stevens  
 Galen G. Tiffany  
 Homer G. Wallace  
 George M. Wieber  
 Charles F. Whitney  
 Toney Yosha

Sgt. Maj. Chauncey A. King\*  
 Lt. Arthur C. Liston, M.D.  
 Clarence Marlow  
 Michael F. Moynihan  
 Martin W. Murray  
 Thomas J. O'Brien  
 William O'Connor  
 James P. Pheur  
 Bernard Larkin Riley  
 Corp. Arthur H. Sawyer  
 Maxwell W. Smalley  
 Michael W. Stack  
 George A. Sylvester  
 James W. Usher  
 Thomas J. Walsh  
 Sgt. Edgar J. Wells  
 Irving J. Whitney

\* Buried at sea.

#### PERSONS SERVING IN NAVY IN WORLD WAR I:

Reginald F. Cahalane  
 George O. Godsoe  
 John H. Williams, Jr.  
 Francis F. Fitzgerald

Kenneth J. Owen  
 Albert H. Fletcher  
 Edward J. Owens

#### NURSES SERVING IN FRANCE IN WORLD WAR I:

Helen Stowell

Ethel Smith

#### PERSONS SERVING IN WORLD WAR II FROM WALPOLE

(Taken from 1945 Town Report)

\* Died in service.

Archie Abaire  
 Felix Aldrich, Jr.  
 Wayne Allbee  
 William Audette  
 Ernest Aumand  
 Charles S. Bain  
 Dean Bates  
 Everett Bacon  
 Ernest Baldasaro  
 Guy Baldasaro  
 John Baldasaro  
 Joseph Baldasaro, 1st  
 Joseph Baldasaro, 2d  
 Patrick Baldasaro  
 James Baldasaro  
 Harold Ball  
 Bernard Bixby  
 Charles Blackwell

Harry Blake  
 Lawrence Blake  
 Wallace Blake  
 John Blicharz  
 Freeman Blood  
 Maurice Booska  
 Charles Booth  
 Albert Boucher  
 Matthew Boucher  
 Harry Boudrieau  
 Leonard Boudrieau  
 George Bowe  
 John Bresland  
 Donald Bresland  
 \*Hudson E. Bridge  
 George L. Bridge, Jr.  
 Edward Burnham  
 \*William T. Burrows

Alfred Bushway  
 Bernard Bushway  
 Edward F. Bushway  
 Ernest Bushway  
 Harold Bushway  
 John Bushway  
 Melvin Bushway  
 Raymond Bushway  
 Lester Cameron  
 Sedley Campbell  
 Albert Capron  
 John Capron  
 Theodore Capron  
 Charles Coffee  
 Richard Collins  
 Charles Corneau  
 Dana Costin  
 Paul Costin



Ernest Cota  
 Henry Cray  
 Paul Cray  
 Walter Cressy  
 George Crockett  
 Gerald Crotty  
 Clayton Curtis  
 Albert Damore  
 Carl Damore  
 John Damore  
 Joseph Damore  
 Norbert Daniels  
 Charles Davis  
 William Delaney  
 Justin Diggins  
 Paul Dowling  
 Edward Doyle  
 James Doyle  
 Thomas Doyle  
 Fred Dugay  
 Raymond Dunn  
 Kendall Durell, Jr.  
 Francis Durward  
 Francis Fennessy  
 James Fennessy  
 John Fennessy  
 Martin Fennessy  
 William Fennessy  
 Hubert Fitzgerald  
 James Fitzgerald  
 Jerome Fitzgerald  
 John Flanders  
 Tony Fortez  
 Mary Foster  
 Robert Foster  
 Raymond Fournier  
 Robert Fowler  
 Josephine Fuller  
 Robert Gale  
 Dominic Gallagher  
 John Gallagher  
 Morin Gallagher  
 Raymond P. Galloway  
 Albert Galway  
 Bruce F. Garwin  
 Eloise Gilbert  
 Fred Gilbert  
 Roger Gilbert  
 Alfred Gilbo  
 \*Bruce A. Gilbo  
 Robert Giles  
 Floyd Goodnow  
 Charles Goodrich  
 Lewis Goodrich

Robert Goodrich  
 Edward Graves  
 John Graves  
 William Graves  
 Joseph Gregonis  
 Dennis Griffin  
 Katherine Griffin  
 Thomas Griffin  
 Enrico Grippo  
 Raymond Hadley  
 T. J. Hagan  
 Elwyn Hall  
 Ernest Hall  
 Robert Hall  
 Arthur Hammond  
 George Harris  
 \*Philip Harris  
 Chauncy Hartnett  
 James Harty  
 Warren Hayes  
 Lawrence Hearne  
 Thomas Hearne  
 Walter Hearne  
 Edward Hennessey  
 Richard Henry  
 Henry Hildreth  
 Harold Hill  
 Dana Hooper  
 Dorothy Houghton  
 Edward Houghton  
 Leslie Howe  
 Richard Howe  
 Donald E. Hubbard  
 John Hull  
 William Jackowski  
 John Jackson  
 Chester James  
 Leon James  
 Martin James  
 Wallace Janiak  
 Clarence Jeffrey, Jr.  
 Merle Jeffrey  
 Roy Jeffrey  
 Howard Johnson  
 J. D. Johnson, Jr.  
 Leon Jones  
 William Juda  
 Harold Kane  
 James Kane  
 Bernard Karnacveicz  
 Chester Karnacveicz  
 Clark Kathan, Jr.  
 Earl Kathan  
 James Keefe

Michael Kelley  
 John Kennedy  
 John Kenney  
 Harold Kenyon  
 Vernon Kenyon  
 Lawrence Kilburn  
 Robert Kilburn  
 \*Forrest Kimball  
 Frank Kimball  
 Oliver Kimball  
 Daniel Kiniry  
 \*Edward Kiniry  
 Joseph D. Kiniry  
 Malcolm Kiniry  
 Edward Kolesnik  
 Klim Kolodziej  
 Walter Kolodziej  
 Gardner Larson  
 Clark Libby  
 James Lindstrom  
 John Lindstrom  
 Carroll Lloyd  
 \*Harold Lorange  
 Charles Lynch  
 Leon Lynch  
 Paul Lynch  
 Philip Lynch  
 Walter Lynch  
 William Lynch  
 Donald Mack  
 Reginald Mack  
 Evelyn Marlow  
 Francis Marlowe  
 Fred Mason  
 Francis McDermott  
 William McGuirk  
 Albert McKenven  
 Nelson McKenven  
 Daniel McMahan  
 Andrew Meancy  
 James Merino  
 Peter Merino  
 Hermon Michaud  
 John Miller  
 Ernest Mitchell  
 Lucy Mitchell  
 William Mitchell  
 Joseph Molaski  
 Stanley Molaski  
 William Montgomery  
 Albert Moore  
 Donald Moreau  
 Roger Moynihan  
 Vincent Moynihan



James Mulcahy  
Martin Murray, Jr.  
\*Edward Nachozski  
John Nachozski  
Alexander Nogý  
Carl Nogý  
Theodore Nogý  
Edward O'Brien  
Gerald O'Brien  
John O'Brien  
John O'Hearne  
Robert O'Neil  
Edward Ostruski  
Josephine Ostruski  
Horace Palmer  
Walter Parkinson  
Lester Parks  
\*Donald Parrott  
Norman Parrott  
Oliver Patnaude  
Hubert Peck  
\*Maurice Pelton  
Raymond Pendergast  
Shepard Perry  
John Pheur  
Joseph Pheur  
William Phipps  
Edward Pickering  
Frank Pivowar  
Marion Podwin  
Ralph Podwin  
Gerald Pomroy  
Vygmond Ponick  
Edward Powers  
Emil Powers  
Kenneth Powers  
Thomas Powers  
Clark Prentiss  
Carl Pryblo  
Charles Pryblo  
John Pryblo  
Marshall Putnam  
James Quinlan

John Ramsay  
Kenneth Ramsey  
Gilbert Ranter  
Russell Reed  
Daniel Relihan  
Kenneth Reynolds  
Charles Robbins  
Maurice Robbins  
Joseph Rogenski  
Harry Rogers  
Warren Rogers  
Charles Royce  
Donald Royce  
William Rumbley  
Sidney Sabins  
Roland Sabourin  
John Sanborn  
Freeman Sargeant  
Paul Savi  
Thomas Schaffer  
Royal Scudder  
Edward Shaughnessy  
George Shaughnessy, Jr.  
James F. Shaughnessy  
James W. Shaughnessy  
George Skinner  
Stanley Smith  
Joseph Sombric  
Walter Sombric  
John Spain  
William Spain  
Gordon Spinnelli  
James Spinnelli  
Stephen Stambo  
Walter Staniszewski  
John Stevens  
Robert Stevens  
Eugene Stryjiski  
Clarence Swain  
John Swain  
Neil Swift  
Percy Swinnemer

Forrest Tetford  
George Tetford  
Spencer Tetford  
Galen Tiffany  
James Tolaro  
Joseph Tolaro  
Michael Tolaro  
Philip Tolaro  
Elmer Tole  
Harry Tole  
Myra Tucker, Jr.  
Nancy Tucker  
Thomas Turker  
John Usher  
William VonLackum  
George Walker  
Henry Walker  
\*Raymond Wallace  
William Wallace  
Harold Walsh  
Vincent Walsh  
Benjamin Warn  
Richard Warn  
Arthur Watkins  
Jack Watkins  
Helen Waysville  
John Waysville  
Peter Waysville  
William Waysville  
\*William Weeks  
Almon Welch  
Carl Westcott  
Clarence Westcott  
Earl Westcott  
William Whitman  
\*Hoyt Wilson  
Sidney Wilson  
Donald Wood  
Ernest Wood  
Francis Wood  
Casius Wright  
Leland F. Wright



#### STATE SENATORS FROM WALPOLE:

John Bellows 1785-87, 92-94  
Amasa Allen 1804  
Roger Vose 1809-10, 12  
Thomas C. Drew 1811, 20-21  
Josiah Bellows 1813  
Stephen Johnson 1825-26  
Frederick Vose 1847-48

Henry A. Hitchcock 1872-73  
Thomas Nelson Hastings 1897, Pres. 1899  
John W. Prentiss 1911, 13  
Clarence W. Houghton 1933  
Harold O. Pierce 1945, 49  
E. Everett Rhodes, Jr. 1957

#### MEN ON GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FROM WALPOLE:

Benjamin Bellows 1777-80, 81-84  
Thomas Sparhawk 1782-84  
Thomas Bellows 1794-99  
Samuel Grant 1818

Thomas C. Drew 1824  
Stephen Johnson 1832, 34  
George Huntington 1851

#### MEMBER OF CONGRESS:

Roger Vose 1813-17

#### REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GENERAL COURT—TO EXETER:

Thomas Sparhawk 1775 (6 mos.)  
John Bellows 1775 (6 mos.)  
Christopher Webber 1776-77  
Ephraim Marsh 1778  
Josiah Goldsmith 1779  
John Graves 1780 (to Windsor, Vt. during Vermont Controversy)

Josiah Goldsmith 1781  
Manoah Drury 1782, 84  
Levi Hooper 1785  
Amasa Allen 1786-87  
Aaron Allen 1788-91

#### AFTER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE WAS ADOPTED IN 1792 THE FOLLOWING SERVED:

Thomas Bellows 1792-94  
Thomas Sparhawk 1795-96, 98, 1801, 03  
Samuel Grant 1797, 99, 1817, 38  
Joseph Bellows 1800  
Thomas C. Drew 1802, 1804-05, 07-09  
Amasa Allen 1806  
Josiah Bellows 1810, 19-20  
Stephen Johnson 1812  
Isaac Redington 1813-14, 16  
David Stone 1815  
Roger Vose 1818  
Daniel W. Bisco 1821-22  
Josiah Bellows, 3rd 1823-25  
Wm. G. Field 1826-29  
James Hooper 1830  
Leonard Bisco 1831-32, 35-36  
Frederick Vose 1833  
Thomas Bellows 1834, 51  
Lemuel Starkweather 1834, 37-38  
George Huntington 1835-37

Stephen Stearns 1839, 42  
Henry S. Tudor 1839-41, 43  
William Bellows 1840  
Ebenezer Morse 1841  
Daniel Merriam, Jr. 1842  
Edwin Hosmer 1843  
Luther Proctor 1844-45  
John P. Maynard 1844-45  
Chas. Sparhawk 1846  
Elijah Kilburn 1846  
Farnum Lane 1847-48  
Sam. Nichols 1847-48  
Jacob B. Burnham 1849-50  
David Buffum 1849-50  
Jesseniah Kittredge 1851  
David Fisher 1852  
Peletiah Armstrong 1852  
Aaron P. Howland 1853-54  
David C. Thompson 1853-54  
Augustus Faulkner 1855-56



Ozias S. Morris 1855	Edwin Seabury 1890
Henry Mellish 1856-57	Chas. E. Beckwith 1892
Thomas G. Wells 1857	Wm. J. King 1894, 1920, 22, 24, 26, 28, 32, 36
Henry A. Hitchcock 1858-59	Geo. H. Angier 1894
Frederick Kilburn 1858-59	John W. Prentiss 1896, 1908
Augustus F. Maynard 1860-61	James Barrett 1896
Oliver Martin 1860-61	Cornelius J. Sullivan 1898
Major J. Britton 1862-63	Waldo A. Burt 1900
John W. Hayward 1862-63	Ira W. Ramsey 1902, 04
Silas M. Bates 1864	Geo. E. Sherman 1902, 04
Joshua B. Clark 1864-65	Dan. Connors 1906
A. Herbert Bellows 1865-66	Russell G. Graves 1910, 12
John Hooper 1866-67	Cyrus M. Clough 1914
Seth Huntley 1867	Edgar J. Wells 1914
George Rust 1868-69	Wm. H. Lane 1916
Leonard B. Holland 1868-69	Geo. F. Sanders 1916
Benjamin E. Webster 1870-71	Fred O. Smalley 1918
Sherman Watkins 1870-71	Chas. H. Barnes 1918
George Aldrich 1872-73	Arthur E. Wells 1920, 22, 28
Christian Lucke 1872-73	Timothy H. Bowen 1924
Frederick Watkins 1874-75	Clarence W. Houghton 1926, 28
Wm. G. Buffum 1874-75	Harry J. Jennison 1930, 44
Henry C. Brown 1876-77, 88	Albert F. Chickering 1930, 32, 38
Henry Burt 1876-77	John W. Graves 1934
Allen Dunshee 1878	Donald J. Kiniry 1934
Henry C. Rawson 1878	James T. Relihan 1936, 38
George H. Holden 1880	Francis Doucette 1940
James H. Heald 1880	Harold O. Pierce 1940, 42, 46
Henry E. Putnam 1882	Arthur H. Chickering 1942
Patrick E. Griffin 1882, 84, 86	Harold T. Killeen 1944, 46, 48, 52
Winslow B. Porter 1884	E. Everett Rhodes 1948, 50, 52, 54
Edward A. Watkins 1886	John E. Aylard 1950
William H. Kiniry 1888	Louis S. Ballam 1954, 56, 58, 60
Chas. J. O'Neil 1890, 1900, 06, 08, 10, 12	Robert L. Galloway 1956, 58, 60
Curtis R. Crowell 1890	

(From 1880 on the dates are year of election.)

Walpole is in the Tenth State Senatorial District; the Fourth Councilor District; the Second Congressional District and is entitled to two Representatives to the General Court.

Latitude of Walpole 43° 5'; Longitude 72° 25'.

Population of Walpole on census years (after 1790):

1767	308	1820	2020	1870	1830	1920	2553
1773	549	1830	1979	1880	2018	1930	2287
1775	658	1840	2015	1890	2163	1940	2400
1790	1245	1850	2034	1900	2693	1950	2536
1800	1743	1860	1868	1910	2668	1960	2825
1810	1894						



## SELECTMEN OF WALPOLE:

- Theodore Atkinson 1752-53  
Benjamin Bellows 1752-58, 60-66, 68-73  
Samuel Johnson 1754  
Robert Powker 1754  
John Kilburn 1755-58, 60  
Daniel Twitchell 1755  
Nathaniel Powers 1756  
John Hastings 1759  
Fairbanks Moor 1759  
Nathaniel Hovey 1760-61  
Thomas Chandler 1762  
Wm. Smeed 1762-66  
Timothy Delano 1763  
John Graves 1764, 68, 72, 81  
Benjamin Bellows, Jr. 1765, 74, 76  
John Marcy 1765-66, 69, 71, 73  
Abraham Smith 1765-66  
Samuel Trott 1766  
James Bundy 1768  
Asa Baldwin 1769  
Eliad Graves 1770  
Jonathan Hall 1770  
Thomas Sparhawk 1771-73, 76-77, 80-82, 89, 90-91  
Lemuel Holmes 1773-74, 79  
Amos Babcock 1774  
Christopher Webber 1775, 79  
Jonathan Burt 1775  
Ebenezer Swan 1775-77  
John Bellows 1777, 82, 85-86  
Elisha Marsh 1778  
Wm. Joyner 1778  
Aaron Allen 1778-79, 82, 1801  
John Jennison 1779, 82, 85  
Sylvanus Titus 1779  
Levi Hooper 1780-82  
Jonathan Hall, Jr. 1783-84  
Aaron Hodskins Jr. 1783  
Isaac Bundy 1783  
James Lewis 1784, 87-88  
Roger Farnham 1784-86  
Moses Stearns 1784  
Josiah Goldsmith 1784  
Amasa Allen 1786  
Abraham Holland 1787  
Jonathan Royce 1787-88, 93, 96-97, 1801, 03-07  
John Denison 1788  
Thomas Bellows 1789-95, 1801  
Josiah Griswold 1789-90  
Jonas Hosmer 1791-92  
Thos. Sparhawk, Jr. 1792-95, 1800  
Samuel Grant 1794  
Jonas Fairbanks 1795-97, 1801  
Nicanor Townsley 1796-1800  
Noah Heaton 1798-99  
Eliphalet Fox 1798-99  
Caleb Bellows 1800  
Alexander Watkins 1802  
Asa Sibley 1802  
Isaac Redington 1803-08, 10  
Levi Allen 1803-04, 06-14  
Joseph Fay 1805, 09  
Stephen Johnson 1808-11, 24  
Silas Angier 1811-12  
Daniel W. Bisco 1812-13, 18-20, 24  
Salmon Hooper 1813-17  
Thos. Seaver 1814-17, 21-23  
David Bisco 1815  
John Barnett 1816-17  
Josiah Bellows, 3rd 1818-23, 27-30  
Ebenezer Morse 1824, 38-39, 41  
Wm. Buffum 1825-26  
Matthew Dickey 1825-26  
Martin Butterfield 1825-26  
Dan. Brooks 1827-28, 33  
John Dunshee 1827-28  
Stephen Stearns 1829-30  
Leonard Bisco 1829-37, 42-43  
John Turner 1831-32  
Sam. Nichols 1831-32, 45  
Lemuel Starkweather 1833-35, 37-39  
David Fisher 1834-37, 48-49  
Joseph Mason 1836  
Samuel Starkweather 1837  
Jonathan Emerson 1838  
George Bundy 1839, 46, 53  
Henry S. Tudor 1840, 45  
Jesseniah Kittredge 1840  
John P. Maynard 1840-41  
Daniel Merriam, Jr. 1841-42  
David C. Thompson 1842-44  
Stephen Tiffany 1843  
James Hale 1844  
Charles Sparhawk 1844-45, 47  
George W. Grant 1846  
Robert Barnett 1846-47  
James M. Burroughs 1847  
Peletiah Armstrong 1848-50  
Sherman Watkins 1848-50  
Oliver Martin 1850, 57-58  
Warren Daniels 1851  
Harrison G. Smart 1851  
Henry A. Hitchcock 1851



Lyman Watkins 1852  
 Isaac F. Bellows 1852  
 Lewis Dickey 1852  
 Edward Crosby 1853-56  
 Francis Locke 1853-54, 58-60  
 Elias Hardy 1854  
 Ephraim A. Watkins 1855  
 John Hooper 1855-56  
 Augustus F. Maynard 1856-58  
 John W. Hayward 1857-61  
 Joshua B. Clark 1859-60, 62, 67  
 Alfred W. Burt 1861-62, 64-66, 78, 80-81  
 Lewis Thompson 1861  
 George H. Gilbert 1862-65  
 Benj. H. Hitchcock 1863  
 Henry Allen 1863  
 Wm. W. Guild 1864-65  
 Wm. B. Mason 1866-77  
 Samuel D. Learned 1867  
 Benj. E. Webster 1868-69, 73, 78  
 Sherman Watkins 1868-69  
 Chas. Fisher 1868-72  
 Frederick Watkins 1870-72, 79  
 Nehemiah Royce 1870-74  
 Wm. A. Maynard 1873-74  
 Henry Burt 1874-7, 1882-83  
 Dares A. DeWolf 1875-77  
 Albert F. Nims 1875-76  
 Henry C. Rawson 1876-77, 87-88  
 John C. Brown 1878  
 Winslow B. Porter 1879  
 Jefferson Wilson 1879  
 Henry E. Putnam 1880-82, 84-85  
 James H. Heald 1880-81, 90  
 Curtis R. Crowell 1882-84  
 Alba A. P. Robinson 1883  
 Leonard B. Holland 1884

John W. Prentiss, Jr. 1885-94  
 Herbert J. Watkins 1885-87, 96  
 Chas. W. Tole 1886  
 Hiram Watkins 1888-89  
 John J. Fitzgerald 1889  
 Ira W. Ramsay 1890, 96, 1901, 14-15, 17-18  
 Wm. H. Kiniry 1891-94, 96, 98-1901, 11-14  
 John C. Howard 1891-94  
 Daniel Connors 1895, 1905-06, 10-12  
 Edwin K. Seabury 1895, 1904  
 George W. Kingsbury 1896-1902, 16-20  
 Nathaniel W. Holland 1897, 1902-03, 07  
 Chas. E. Seward 1902-04, 20-29  
 Patrick E. Griffin 1903, 05  
 Fred O. Smalley 1904, 06  
 Chas. H. Slade 1905-06, 10  
 Alfred E. Godsoe 1907-09  
 Wm. J. Hall 1907-09  
 Fred A. Ramsay 1908, 21, 37-45  
 Arthur R. Wells 1909  
 Harry J. Jennison 1910-13, 15  
 R. S. Sawyer 1913  
 C. M. Clough 1914  
 Wm. J. Corbett 1915-19, 22  
 Wm. J. King 1919-21  
 Clarence W. Houghton 1922-30  
 Daniel Moynihan 1923-34  
 Russell G. Graves 1930-32  
 Harry J. Stowell 1931-36  
 John W. Prentiss 1933-47  
 James T. Relihan 1935-39  
 James W. Shaughnessey 1940-43  
 John E. Aylward 1944-58  
 Lawrence W. Graves 1946-  
 Louis S. Ballam 1948-  
 Harold T. Killeen 1959-

#### TOWN CLERKS OF WALPOLE:

Benjamin Bellows 1752-53, 55-58  
 Col. Josiah Willard 1754  
 Benjamin Bellows, Jr. 1759-77, 80-82, 84-94  
 Amos Babcock 1778-79  
 Nathan Goddard 1783  
 Nicanor Townsley 1795-1806, 08-26  
 Daniel Bisco 1807  
 Wm. G. Field 1826-28  
 Josiah Bellows, 3rd 1829-30  
 Walton Mead 1831-37  
 Wm. Ruggles 1838-58  
 Harvey Ball 1859-61  
 John W. Lovejoy 1862-3

Ransom L. Ball 1864-8  
 Abel P. Richardson 1869-99 (Curtis R. Crowell appointed and served while Dr. Richardson was in California, Thos. B. Peck was elected 1895, resigned before the end of the year, Russell G. Graves finished out Dr. Richardson's last term)  
 John W. Hayward 1900-13  
 Wm. J. Hall 1914  
 Carlton Sparhawk 1915-22  
 Margaret MacG. Sparhawk 1923-48  
 Josephine Woodward 1949-51  
 Margaret M. Ballam 1952-



## MODERATORS OF WALPOLE:

Until 1892 the moderator was elected at each meeting, after that date at the biennial election. The early moderators listed are those who served at the annual meeting.

Benjamin Bellows 1752-53, 55-63, 65-66, 69-73, 75-76	Henry Foster 1826
Samuel Johnson 1754	Wm. G. Field 1829
John Graves 1764, 68	Josiah Bellows, 3rd 1832-41
Thomas Sparhawk 1774, 77	Daniel Merriam, Jr. 1842, 54
Benjamin Bellows, Jr. 1778, 80	George Huntington 1843, 46, 48-53
Lemuel Holmes 1779	Aaron P. Howland 1844-45, 47, 55-62
Elisha Marsh 1781	John W. Hayward 1863-68
Josiah Goldsmith 1782, 84-86	George Rust 1869-71
Jonathan Hall, Jr. 1783	John B. Russell 1872
John Bellows 1787-88	Curtis R. Crowell 1873-97 (Albert C. Dickey served 1887 while Crowell was Town Clerk)
Abraham Holland 1789	John W. Prentiss 1898-1911, 32-45
Jonathan Royce 1790, 1804	Charles H. Barnes 1912-13
Jonas Fairbanks 1791-92, 95-96	Wm. H. Kiniry 1914-19
Jonathan Fairbanks 1793	Wm. J. King 1920-21
Andrew French 1794, 97	Fred A. Ramsay 1922-27, 30-31
Amasa Allen 1798-1802, 05-06	Harry E. Stowell 1928-29
Thomas Bellows 1803, 09-10, 12-14	Herbert Tucker 1946-55
Asa Sibley 1807-08	John E. Aylward 1956-59
Stephen Johnson 1811	Holmes Whitmore 1960-
Josiah Bellows, 2nd 1816-18, 27-28, 30-31	
Roger Vose 1819-25	

## TOWN TREASURERS OF WALPOLE:

Benjamin Bellows 1755-63, 65-74, 76	Ephraim Holland 1839-41
Wm. Smeed 1764	Otis Bardwell 1842-43
Thomas Sparhawk 1777	Jesseniah Kittredge 1844-51, 53-69
John Graves 1778-81	David Buffum 1852
Sam. Trott 1782, 85-86	Benj. F. Aldrich 1870-75
Amos Babcock 1783	Thos. B. Buffum 1876-1903
John Crafts 1787-90	Harry B. Hurd 1904
Thos. Bellows 1796	Frank A. Spaulding 1905-31
Dan. W. Bisco 1811-12	Emma J. Sabin 1932-33
Josiah Bellows 1813-14, 24-28, 30-34, 37	Helen L. Knowlton 1934-39
Isaac Redington 1815-24	E. Everett Rhodes 1940-50
Josiah Bellows, 3rd 1829	Lillian Smith 1951-62
Wm. Buffum 1835-36	Harley E. Smith 1962-
Leonard Bisco 1838	



# POSTMASTERS AND DATE OF APPOINTMENT:

Samuel Grant	* April 1, 1795
David Carlisle	April 9, 1797
John Hubbard	* January 1, 1799
Alexander Thomas	* October 1, 1799
Gurdon Huntington	* October 1, 1802
Francis Gardiner	* October 1, 1804
William Pierce	* July 1, 1807
Oliver Allen	* July 1, 1808
David Stone	August 12, 1816
Josiah Bellows, 3d	January 5, 1826
George Allen	January 26, 1842
Theron Adams	June 19, 1845
Joel H. Tracy	June 4, 1847
Nathan G. Babbitt	July 28, 1847
Edward Crosby	April 14, 1849
Amherst K. Maynard	April 2, 1853
William C. Sherman	July 31, 1861
Philip Peck	October 24, 1866
William C. Sherman	January 8, 1867
Ransom L. Ball	April 19, 1869
Leonard B. Holland	February 19, 1889
Frank A. Spaulding	April 27, 1889
James L. Holland	March 31, 1893
Annette Brown	April 10, 1895
Carleton E. Sparhawk	April 27, 1899
Russell G. Graves	January 7, 1914
Carleton E. Sparhawk	December 9, 1922
Thomas W. Kiniry	† August 1, 1936
Raymond J. Lloyd	November 15, 1951
Oscar H. Woodward, Jr.	December 31, 1951
Gertrude R. Wallace	September 30, 1952

\* Date of first return from the deputy postmaster to the Postmaster General.

† Information after 1929 was furnished by the Post Office Department. Date of establishment of Post Office not shown.



## WALPOLE LIBRARIANS

Village	North Walpole
Hon. Jeremiah Mason 1795-97	Mary E. Powers 1902-03
Joseph Dennie 1797-	Anna C. Hartnett 1903-23
Pliny Dickinson ?-1823	Katherine Keefe 1924
David Buffum 1823-	Margaret Walsh ?-1945
Jennie M. Ball in 1860's	Mary Marino 1945-46
Louisa A. Pierce 1872-73	Frances Hogan 1946-
Ransom Ball 1873-83	
Flora M. Crowell 1883-85	
Ransom Ball 1885-90	
Louisa B. Hayward 1890-91	
Annette Brown 1891-95	
Louisa B. Hayward 1895-97	
Frances M. Sabin 1897-1927	
Ola A. Hubbard 1927-39	
Langdon Bellows 1939-52	
Jessie Graves 1952-	

## WALPOLE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

1891-1961

Hudson E. Bridge 1891-1931	Ola A. Hubbard 1928-37
Mrs. Hudson E. Bridge 1891-1931	Robert M. L. Holt 1929
Thomas B. Peck 1891-1909	Margaret Porter 1929-31, 35-40, 42-54
Josiah G. Bellows 1891-1904	Margaret M. Sparhawk 1930-40
Patrick E. Griffin 1891-1904	Austin Hubbard 1931-
Henry E. Putnam 1891-1910	Alice Kennealley 1932-34
Mrs. A. P. Richardson 1891-1912	Emma J. Sabin 1932-34
Mrs. Alfred M. Foster 1891-1909	Margaret Walsh 1932-34, 1949-
Mary A. Tobey 1891-1900	Charles Dalzell 1935-45
Waldo F. Hayward 1891-?	Mildred Rogers 1935-49
Susan Tufts 1891-?	Helen E. Galloway 1941-56
Dr. George A. Blake 1891-?	Fanny Jennison 1942-57
Frances M. Sabin 1893-1928	Jane Harris 1946-57
Mary H. Bellows 1901-21	Mary Van Demark 1946-61
Annie M. Buffum 1901-20	Frances Hogan 1947-
Arthur P. Davis 1910-25	Agnes Bunker 1947-61
Alice M. Gilbert 1910-41	Doris Brainard 1955-
Mary G. Bates 1913-36	Edward L. Cutter 1957-58
T. Bellows Buffum 1913-29	Mary A. Tatem 1958-
Grace L. Bellows 1921-45	Norma Koson 1958-
Louis R. Lincoln 1922-36	Frances Potter 1959-
Anna C. Hartnett 1923, 1930-48	G. Leighton Bridge 1961-
Catherine C. Keefe 1924-48	Dorothy Rising 1961-
Susie D. B. Flint 1926	



## COMMISSIONERS OF WALPOLE VILLAGE PRECINCT

(Known as Engineers until 1891, Chief Engineers in Left Column.)

William A. Maynard 1874-75  
Ephraim W. Barker 1876-79  
Benj. P. Owen 1880-82  
Bartholomew Driscoll 1883  
Henry F. Chandler 1884-85  
Wm. J. Hall 1886-88, 91  
Charles H. Roundy 1889  
Charles C. Davis 1890

Levi A. Hall 1874, 76, 77  
Warren A. Jennison 1874  
Charles Gates 1874  
Dennis Griffin 1875, 84, 85  
Samuel H. Porter 1876-79, 81, 82  
Benj. P. Owen 1879  
Henry C. Podwin  
George H. Holden 1880  
Barth. Driscoll 1880-82  
Curtis R. Crowell 1883  
Horace A. Perry 1883  
R. S. Blanchard 1884-85  
Benj. F. Webster 1886-89  
Charles H. Roundy 1886-88, 91  
Herbert J. Watkins 1889  
George P. Porter 1890  
Charles C. Davis 1891

Herbert J. Watkins 1892-94  
Thomas B. Peck 1892-94, 1900-02  
Thomas B. Buffum 1892-94  
Edward M. Holden 1895  
David N. Wright 1895-1900  
George H. Holden 1895, 96, 1900-02  
John W. Knight 1896-98  
William J. Hall 1897-99  
Geo. E. Sherman 1899-1904, 07-09  
T. Nelson Hastings 1901-06  
Matthew H. Gordon 1905  
Fred A. Lebourveau 1905  
F. B. Sibley 1906-12  
H. D. Gale 1906-17  
Carlton E. Sparhawk 1910  
A. P. Davis 1911-14, 23, 33-35  
B. C. Kiniry 1913-20  
W. D. Knowlton 1915-20, 24  
Alfred Clarke 1918-19  
W. W. Shackley 1920-21, 23, 24  
H. O. Woodward 1921-22, 27-28  
Willie G. Leonard 1921-22  
Frank P. Driscoll 1922  
Charles S. Bain 1923-24  
R. F. Cahalane 1924  
Minnie L. Hathaway 1925

Ola A. Hubbard 1925-6  
Emily M. Jennison 1925  
Emma J. Sabin 1925  
Ralph Libbey 1926-28  
H. J. Stowell 1926-28  
Roy M. Peck 1929  
C. S. Barnes 1929  
John Farnsworth 1929  
Dana Knowlton 1930  
O. J. Hubbard 1930-46  
D. W. Harris 1930  
Willis Foster 1931-32  
Charles Seward 1932-35  
Geo. W. Jeffery 1936-54  
Harold O. Pierce 1936-50  
George R. Harris 1947-49  
Robert Guest 1950-52, 54-55  
R. J. McKenven 1951  
Everett E. Houghton 1953-55  
R. N. Johnson 1955-57  
Harry J. Larsen 1956-  
Harold S. Putnam 1956-59  
Jesse D. Pickering, Jr. 1958  
John A. Hubbard 1959-  
Willard Leland 1960  
Oscar H. Woodward, Jr. 1961-62



## WALPOLE HIGH SCHOOL

We found no records of the graduating classes from the Walpole High School until very recent years. We give below the names of some of the members of the Senior Class. This is not necessarily a complete list.

- 1896 (1st class): Grace Emma Hooper, Minnie Louise Hathaway, Florence Maude Brown.
- 1897: Alice D. Maynard, Elizabeth Driscoll, Frank DeWolfe Webster, Maud L. Maynard.
- 1898: Mattie Elbra Hooper, Alice Maria Kingsbury, William Allen Slade.
- 1901: Flora May Prentiss, Arthur Dunham Holmes.
- 1902: Mabel M. Watkins, Stuart K. Barnes, Arthur D. Holmes.
- 1904: Bernice Butterfield, Aulettie L. Felch, Lila I. Pierce, Rena C. Porter, Cora L. Thompson, Charles H. Hawks, Burton Holmes, Dean F. Smalley.
- 1905: Lee L. Smalley.
- 1906: Percie L. Roy.
- 1907: Bertha L. Ramsay, Mabel R. Cole, Theodore Cole, Arthur H. Sawyer, Henry E. Houghton.
- 1908: Grace E. Fenton, Cora R. Peck, Leonard I. Houghton.
- 1909: Elva Miller Clark, Florence Elizabeth Wallace, Carrie Emerson Watkins.
- 1910: Jessie Martha Graves, Jennie Nancy Holden, Hazel Boynton, Clarence Oren Ramsay.
- 1911: Minnie Clough, Cora Glazier, Eleanor Hayward, Mary Holmes, Perley Richmond.
- 1912: Emma McNutt, Catherine O'Brien, Vera F. Kenrick, Lottie M. Royce, Helen E. Kenrick, Irene M. Atwood.
- 1913: William O'Brien, Ethel Smith, Zilla Felch, Madeline Foster.
- 1914: Ethel Marion Richmond, Harriet May Reed, Lillian Beatrice Richmond, Marion Ellen Morse, Nina Fannie Miller, Roxanna Louise McNutt.
- 1915: Mary Houghton, Ruth Slade, Lois Booth, Mary Tollerton, Ruth Wightman, Galen Tiffany.
- 1916: Margaret Langdon, Marion Gale, Harriet Wightman, Mildred Hubbard, Gertrude Graves.
- 1917: Gertrude Mary Ramsay, Hazel May Lewis, Edith Jane Best, Ellen Currier Selkirk, Annie Adeline Tollerton, Oliver Jones Hubbard, Orrin Calvin Whitney, Albert Henry Fletcher.
- 1918: Ernest Snow, Edith Wellman, Helen Willson.
- 1919: Helen M. Clark, Miriam Graves, Kathleen M. McNutt, Margaret P. Porter, Gerrard Megathlin, Pauline Olive Wellington.
- 1920: Adaline Frances Angier, Myrtle Luella Ashwell, Grace Hannah Foster, Marion Sophia Guild, Austin Ira Hubbard, Dana Knowlton, Dana Bowman Lewis, Helen Lewis, Alice Pauline MacNutt, Donald Peck Metcalf, Gerald Thomas Morse, Katie Eva Porter.
- 1921: Vivian E. Chandler, Doris M. Fletcher, Lawrence S. Holland, Charles W. Houghton, Eunice M. Houghton, Kenneth M. Merrell, Dorothy L. Parker, Frank E. Ramsay, Doris F. Richmond, Treva R. Stowell.
- 1922: Rachel A. Davis, Amy H. Houghton, Leslie S. Hubbard, Ruth Long, Elizabeth A. Merrill, Frederic E. Sibley, William J. Sullivan, Harry T. Van Demark, Henry G. Wightman.
- 1923: Lillian L. Barber, George W. Cobb, Alice B. Damaziak, Brona M. Gryzgo, Margaret L. Kiniry, Donald E. Megathlin, Dorothy M. Prentiss, William T. Ramsay.
- 1924: Ola Allen, Alice Barber, Lawrence Graves, C. Winthrop Houghton, Elizabeth MacNutt, Robert Morse, Ruth Plaisted, Margaret Rodenbush, Helen St. George, Carline Sparhawk.
- 1925: Eleanor May Clark, Emma Ellen Currier, Abigail Gray, Clayton Albert Gray, Celestine Catharine Jones, Roger Roscoe Long, Alma Etta Metcalf, Gladys Helen Metcalf, Evelyn Inez Rolins, Laura Maxine Wilson.
- 1926: Mary H. Angier, Mary R. Barber, Richard E. Bean, Evelyn F. Christian, Earl W. Guild, Catherine I. Hall, Gertrude C. Jacobs, Mary C. Kiniry, Rachel E. Long, Evelyn M. MacIlvaine, Elinor A. Miller, Mitchell C. Mousley, Herbert Peck, Everett E. Rhodes Jr., George E. Tenney, Alice I. Thomas, Elizabeth L. Wightman, Mabel D. Wolfe, Ethel L. Wright.
- 1927: Alice Currier, Prentiss Galloway, Edward B. Knapp, Lawrence Leach, Margaret Mattson, Lena Plaisted, Richard E. Prudy, Marion Reade, Mildred Richmond, Stephen Williams, Fay Wright.
- 1928: Mary Bane, Bernard Lawrence, Mildred Lawrence, Helen Mattson, Clarence Metcalf, Esther Moulthrop, Alice M. Rhodes, Beulah Stowell, Hazel Tiffany, Dorothy Woodward.
- 1929: Bertha Aldrich, Mildred E. Bellows, Robert Galloway, Mary L. Long, Woolsey W. Mathers, Marion N. Podwin, Pauline E. Reed, Bernice E. Stevens, Gladys M. Tole.
- 1930: Lawrence E. Booth, Hollis L. Davenport, Robert H. Hall, Doris E. Hitchcock, Edward W. Hitchcock, Clyde E. Jeffrey, Elizabeth Ketchum, Max V. Metcalf, Elizabeth Sawyer, Jack H. Watkins, Annebelle Wright.
- 1931: Alson B. Alden, Wilbur F. Allen, John W. Galloway, Lyle W. Jeffrey, Marion E. Jennison, Anna B. Long, Theresa M. McKenven, Alton R. Melish, Ruth I. Rhodes, Frank A. Rock, Warren H. Rogers, Artemise H. Seney, Lester C. Stevens, Stanley F. Trybulski, Harriet W. Whitton, Hoyt W. Wilson.
- 1932: William Frederick Bain, George Allen Bryant, Helen Charlotte Christian, Robert Knowlton Foster, Sewell Willoba Gilman, Elizabeth Amanda Lawrence, Nelson James McKenven, Marion Evelyn Sprague, Charles William Stowell, Charles Sidney Wilson, Ardelle Radcliffe Wolfe, Philip Leonard Woodward, Marie Louise Wright.



- 1933: Thelma Cummings Booth, Dorothea Mary Cheney, Florence Agnes Cheney, Helen Marguerite Chickering, Teresa Elizabeth Cray, Charles Carpenter Davis, George Ransom Harris, Donald Eldred Hubbard, Irene Alexandria Jadowski, Dwight Kenneth Jeffrey, Dorothy Ella Jennison, Marjorie Olive Jennison, Everett Ernest Reed, Jennie Antoinette Rock, Isabelle Evangeline Sprague, Lulu May Tattersail, Arthur Scott Watkins, Mary Josephine Whitney.
- 1935: Wallace Lawrence Baker, Ernestine Mary Good, Philip Bean Harris, Ruth Della Lawrence, Russell Ivan Lowell, Thomas Carl Mann, Morris Joseph Nelson, Marion Esther Prentiss, Edward Joseph Rock, Raymond Alfred Seward, Henry Harvey Thompson, Jr., Evelyn May Wolfe, Elliott Barnes Woodward.
- 1937: Barbara Capps, Cynthia Capps, Albert W. Hall, Elwyn Hall, Helen Kilburn, Rosalie Libby, Ruth Mayo, Katherine Morse, Gerald Pomeroy, Julia Spinney, Dora Taylor.
- 1938: Walter A. Blake, Robert M. Farnsworth, Bertha E. Fuller, John H. Graves, William C. Graves, Christine E. Jennison, Helen L. Kenyon, Jean E. Menancon, Louise F. Morse, Miona Catherine Nelson, Mildred Veronica Podwin, Emerson W. Powers, Sidney P. Sabins Jr., Hazel Mary Smith, Roxanna Elizabeth Thompson, Junie E. Tiffany, Blanche Wilk, Jennie Evangeline Wilk.
- 1939: Loraine Aldrich, Joseph Bonzek, Elizabeth Brooks, Linwood Burt, Mary Cheney, Arlene Davenport, Ernest Hall, Alice James, Clark Libby, Edith Palmer, Kenneth Ramsay, Harriet Thompson, William Wallace.
- 1940: Evelyn Adams, Lillian Boudrieau, George Edwards, Agnes Fuller, Dorothy Houghton, Louise Jones, Arlene Kenyon, Evelyn Marlow, Albert McKenven, Theodore Parker, Evelyn Walker.
- 1941: Harry Blake, Lynn Fullam, Russell Galloway, Marjorie Graves, Roy Jeffrey, Thomas Hatt, Edward A. Houghton Jr., Harold Kenyon, Lawrence Kilburn, Barbara Mason, Katherine Parkinson, Elizabeth Prentiss, Gertrude Ramsey, Priscilla Scovell, Nancy Tucker, Blanche Wilk, Josephine Wilkerson.
- 1942: Lillian Curtis, Marion D. Foster, Bruce A. Gilbo, Gladys M. Jennison, Lura M. Kathan, Ruth Kilburn, Albert W. Kingsbury, Barbara G. Larsen, Isabel M. Mitchell, William I. Phipps, Shirley M. Sabins, Myra Tucker, William C. Whitman, Donald H. Wood.
- 1943: Alice Burt, Irene Burt, Josephine Fuller, Dorothy Guilmette, Shirley Hall, Lorine Houghton, Freda Mae Jeffrey, Priscilla Mayo, Charlotte Messer, Doris Pearce, Jane Phipps, Catherine Pomeroy, Joan Stevens, Priscilla Wood.
- 1944: Thomas Clyde Baldwin, Elaine Caroline Eudora Clark, Marion Louise Dunn, Edward Thomas Graves, Paul Richard Hatt, Antoinette Elizabeth James, Clarence Joseph Jeffrey, Jr., Martha Louise Von Lackum, Lynnette Lilla Lawrence, Rebecca Nobel Leete, Anson Horace Norton, Roy Austin Paine, Marshall Elmer Putnam, John Ira Ramsey, Walter Arlo Robbins, Helen Crocker Slade.
- 1945: Lawrence Everett Blake, Caroline Elizabeth Burt, Esther Mae Chandler, Ruth Dalzell, Robert Paul Daniels, Geraldine Ada Fuller, George Russell Graves, Claire Lee Hawksley, Walter Curtis Kilburn, Jr., Donald William Kingsbury, Bertha Dora Messer, Charles Harrison Parker, Richard Allan Pearce, Roszella Beth Pomeroy, Harold Swain Putnam, Patricia Florence Sabins, Perley Jasper Smith, Jr., Lillian Marie Wolfe, Reginald Hans Wolfe, Dorothy Marie Woodbury.
- 1946: Sylvia Aldrich, James Burrows, Esther Dalzell, Arthur Hatt, John Hubbard, Avis Jeffrey, Anne Johnson, Ethel Kilburn, Barbara Kopacz, Marguerite Mitchell, Francis Roberts, Blanche Smith, Lester Westcott, Herbert Wood.
- 1947: Richard Aldrich, Paul Galloway, Marguerite Geer, Robert Graves, Sterling Kenyon, Jeanne Kolvoord, Marilyn Kopacz, Harry John Larsen, Jr., Lucile Lawrence, Ralph Lawrence, Claire Paine, Linwood Paine, Althea Roy, Charles Welch, James Yanizyn.
- 1948: Elinor Barry, Leonard Barry, Lloyd Brooks, Ruth Chandler, Gordon Fletcher, Stanley Gunnerson, Betty Hurd, Helen James, Dorothy Jeffrey, Earl Kathan, Alice Kilburn, Walter McCoy, Robert Moore, Elinor Smith, Harry Tenney.
- 1949: Jane Etta Bryant, Roger Harmon Daniels, Alan Wayne Hayes, Virginia Vincent Hubbard, Maitland Eugene Hudson, Ruth May Hurd, Richard Henry Lawrence, Trafford John Leland, Joanne Evelyn Menard, Muriel Virginia Murray, Vonnette Christine Nystrom, May Sanford Patch, Beverly Jane Smith, Roger Stanley Wallace, Virginia Ruth Westcott, Dona-Jean Eudora Wood.
- 1950: Joan Erdine Aldrich, Leona Ada Amsden, Ruth Ellen Brainard, Roy Gilman Corbett, Joan Evelyn Daniels, Priscilla May Holmes, Thomas Franklin Johnson, Philip Amadon Kolvoord, Lois Marie Lawrence, Lee Leslie Lund, Evelyn Moody, Carroll Cameron Paine, Shirley Mae Pomeroy, Harley Walter Prentiss, Jr., Grace Ione Rhodes.
- 1951: Shirley Ball, Deborah Bartlett, Jack Crehore, William Fletcher, Kenneth Gunnerson, William Houghton, Eleanor Jennison, Carroll Johnson, Thomas Kiniry, Patricia Morrissey, Barbara O'Brien, Dana O'Neill, Sara Perham, Jeanne St. Peters, Wesley Staples, Laura Thayer, Janet Whitman, Phyllis Yanizyn.
- 1952: Mary Jean Aylward, Hazel Louise Brainard, Gilbert Leslie Chandler, Donald Edward Hill, Donald Charles Houghton, Robert Morgan Houghton, Jane Annie Howard, Ethel Evelyn Hurd, James Paul Johnson, Barbara Virginia Licence, Richard Thomas Murray, Elisse Ann Nash, Phebe Kathleen Ramsay, Margaret Emma Reed, Marjorie Ann Rogers.
- 1953: Charles M. Aiken, James Joseph Audet, Sheila Ruth Barry, Levi Lyman Chickering, Samuel John Chickering, Bernice Elizabeth Cobb, Lois Jean Cobb, Lucille Janet Cobb, Robert Ed-



- ward Cobb, Carol Christina Cutler, Charles James Dalzell, Randall Pearl Daniels, William J. Farrow, Carol Lorraine Graves, Kathryn Rebecca Graves, Eloise Emma Hewitt, Clarence William Houghton, Ruth M. Jameson, Edward Joseph Jennison, Phyllis Jean Jensen, Joan Antoinette Kopacz, Dorothy Mae Lund, Bruce Alton Martin, Kay Georgianna Menard, John Jesse O'Brien, Retva Kaarina Pajunen, Dennis Preston Phelps, Janet Reid Prentiss, Mary Agnes Ramsay, Mildred Louise Ramsay, Charles Edward Roentsch, Thomas T. Russell, Philip Aldrich Staples.
- 1954: Barbara Booth, Louise Chaloux, Karen Fredrickson, Arthur Hill, Peter McKenzie, Beverly Messer, Judith Metcalf, Nancy Perham, Louise Phelps, Dianne Schiff, Patricia Staples, Robert Staples, Judith Williams.
- 1955: Roger Adams, Patricia Britton, Marion Bryant, Patricia Chickering, Harold Daniels, Elizabeth Frederickson, Beverly Holmes, David Houghton, Mary Jane Jennison, Audrey Jensen, Ronald Kopacz, Jacob Koson, Kendall Menard, William Murray, Paul Narkiewicz, Jane Phelps, Julia Ramsay, Kathleen Rogers, Sylvia Sessions, Margaret Wyman.
- 1956: Frank Aiken, Louise Margaret Benedict, Ella Mae Blood, John Philip Burrows, Gene Freeman Christian, Rachel Ann Craig, Gloria Mae Fairbank, Barbara Ann Fredette, Robert Leighton Galloway, Jr., Mary Louise Hall, Audrey Louise Harrington, Mary Jean Hewitt, Shirley Mae Hill, Ernest Lund, William Albert McClenning, Robert Albert Smeed, Irene Louise Thompson.
- 1957: Gordon Adams, Patricia Barrett, Robert Barrett, Bertha Britton, Delores Bushway, Arthur Cashin, Donna Chickering, Edward Comerford, Louella Corey, James Fennessey, Henry Fletcher, John Graves, Joyce Harrington, Nancy Kidder, Sandra Koson, Paul Lawrence, Judith Mack, Patricia Martin, Sandra Menard, George O'Brien, Charlotte Patnode, Russell Pickering, Patricia Piper, John Ramsay, Laura Robbins, Fred Roentsch, Judith Smith, Caroline Staples, Jean Wells.
- 1958: Kay Adams, Margaret Barrett, Frederick Blake, Marjorie Blake, Verne Christian, Richard Comerford, Madeline Daigneault, Gail Hall, Geraldine Hill, Charles Keefe, Froydid Krossoy, Joan Lawlor, Donald MacNaughton, Jr., Beverly McClenning, Joanne Narkiewicz, Carlton Peterson, Charlotte Randall, Ruth Renz, Richard Rhodes, Ronald Starkey.
- 1959: Kathleen Boudrieau, Daniel Craig, Justine Daigneault, Jane Frederickson, Donna Harrington, Virginia Jeffrey, James Jennison, Priscilla Kilburn, Peter Koson, John Lawlor, Augusta Martin, Frank McGill, Charles Miller, Elizabeth Pickering, Velma Ramsay, Marie Robbins, Marilyn Staples, Anne Tatem, Mary Jane White, Linda Woodward, Martha Woodward.
- 1960: Phyllis Adams, Susan Andros, Helen Barnes, Sharon Cashin, Susan Comerford, James Corey, Peter Crabtree, Stella French, Sandra Hill, Wayne Hill, Jeffrey Hillier, Carol Holmes, Jane Johnson, Robert Johnson, John Kilburn, Kevin Kratky, Frances Lafayette, Gerald Miller, Ann Newton, William Patnode, Nancy Pickering, Elizabeth Piper, Bruce Rhodes, Kevin Roentsch, Paul Rogers, Wendall St. Peters, Beverly Woodward.
- 1961: Franklin Barrett, Frances Chamberlin, Charles Dolloff, Mary Duprey, John Ferguson, Yoshikazu Hayashi, Robert Hill, Kathryn Holmes, Stephen James, Donald Jennison, Doris Johnson, Robert Koson, Ralph Lawrence, Barbara Martin, Wanda McKennen, Richard Miller, Carmen Mills, Joan Monoski, Alan Parker, Curtis Phelps, Linda Pickering, Richard Prentiss, Kenneth Ramsay, Judith Randall, Claire Rogers, Lois Sargent, Gordon Schofield, Lynn Wilson.
- 1962: Brenda Chickering, Roger Clark, Janet Comerford, Ellen Daigneault, Lila Enman, Lloyd Hall, Madeline James, Dennis Jeffrey, George Kay, Sandra Kenyon, Joyce Ladd, Sandra MacDonald, Nancy McKechnie, John Prentiss, Jean Ramsay, Sandra Rounds, Kenneth Smith, Joyce Wilson, Mary Wilson, Amelia Wilson, Bruce Woodward.



## OFFICERS OF THE SAVINGS BANK OF WALPOLE

### Presidents:

Benjamin F. Aldrich, Aug. 1875-Jan. 1877  
John W. Hayward, Jan. 1877-Jan. 1881  
Alfred W. Burt, Jan. 1881-Jan. 1892  
Thomas B. Buffum, Jan. 1892-Oct. 1901  
George H. Holden, Oct. 1901-Jan. 1902  
Thomas B. Buffum, Jan. 1902-June 1910

George H. Holden, Jan. 1911-Dec. 1921  
Frank Spaulding, Jan. 1922-Apr. 1931  
Charles Barnes, Apr. 1931-Nov. 1938  
Chauncey J. Newell, Nov. 1938-Jan. 1955  
Dwight W. Harris, Jan. 1955-Mar. 1959  
Oliver J. Hubbard, Jan. 1960-

### Treasurers:

Josiah G. Bellows, Aug. 1875-Oct. 1901  
Thomas B. Buffum, Oct. 1901-Jan. 1902  
Harry B. Hurd, Jan. 1902-Aug. 1905  
Clifford L. Sturtevant, Aug. 1905-Dec. 1913

Ferdinand D. Rodenbush, Dec. 1913-Jan. 1924  
Dwight W. Harris, Jan. 1924-Jan. 1954  
Malcolm D. Williams, Jan. 1954-

### Trustees: (In order of their election and service)

Henry A. Hitchcock  
Benjamin F. Aldrich  
Thomas B. Buffum  
Joshua B. Clark  
Edwin K. Seabury  
John W. Hayward  
Alfred W. Burt  
Boliver Lovell  
George H. Holden  
Henry C. Lane  
Harrison G. Barnes  
Henry Allen  
Winslow B. Porter  
George B. Williams  
Charles C. Davis  
George P. Porter  
Thomas B. Peck  
Horace A. Perry  
Edward M. Holden  
Able P. Richardson  
Sidney Gage  
Frank A. Spaulding  
Arthur P. Davis

Fred Lane  
Ferdinand D. Rodenbush  
Charles H. Barnes  
Hermon O. Woodward  
Charles S. Burt  
Charles F. Arnold  
Chauncey J. Newell  
Fred Metcalf  
Dwight W. Harris  
Reginald F. Cahalane  
Oliver J. Hubbard  
Clarence W. Houghton  
Austin I. Hubbard  
Malcolm D. Williams  
Fred F. Ramsay  
George B. Tiffany  
Carroll E. Williams  
John Galloway  
B. Ralph Brainard  
Harley Prentiss  
William I. Mayo  
George R. Harris  
Holmes H. Whitmore



## STREETS IN WALPOLE VILLAGE:

Main Street: Laid 1762, surveyed 1774.

Wentworth Road: Laid 1762, surveyed 1774.

Prospect Street: Laid 1762, surveyed 1774.

North Road: Surveyed 1779, recorded as the Road to Alstead.

Hubbard Road: One of the 12 roads recorded in 1781.

South Street: Part of the County Road from Westmoreland, came into the "Great Road" at the south end of Main Street.

Elm Street, Washington Square West, River Street: Laid 1794 as an alteration in the County Road, extending from the cemetery to South Street. (Road had originally passed up the hill by the cemetery, down Main Street, then westerly on South Street.)

Turnpike Street: Part of the Third N. H. Turnpike, chartered 1799.

Middle Street: Laid 1801.

Westminster Street: 1807, 1830, 1871—First a lane from the southeast corner of the tavern lot westerly to a point on the Common about 6 rods south of the present Westminster Street, then laid 12° farther north to the river where it was proposed to build a bridge (Westminster Bridge). Has been somewhat al-

tered at the west end. 1962 west end closed.

Common: In 1815 "widening Back Street", laid a road around a square at the north end, what would have been included in that part north of the early lane from Main Street, 1887 discontinued cross-roads over the Common.

North Street: Laid 1818, altered 1819.

Pleasant Street: East part laid 1831, west part 1837, to the Road to the Bridge.

Union Street: Laid 1836.

School Street: Laid 1836 as the same project, as far north as the north line of the Academy Lot. South part laid 1836 as part of a projected County Road, survey shows the street straight at the angle of the north part. Extended north to High Street 1853.

Route 12—"New Road to Keene": Laid 1839.

High Street: Laid 1851, widened 1853, discontinued then action rescinded.

Woodward: Laid 1940.

Boynton Road, from cemetery to depot: Laid 1859, relaid 1897, discontinued 1950.

Good Circle: 1952.

Ford Avenue: 1960.



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Keene  
Rockingham County Records (early),  
N. H. Historical Society

## HIGHWAY RECORDS

Records of Town Clerk, Selectmen  
Records of Cheshire County Clerk of  
Court, Keene  
N. H. Department of Public Works,  
Concord

## GENEALOGICAL RECORDS

Records of Town Clerk, Town Reports  
Bureau of Vital Statistics, Dept. of  
Health, Concord  
N. H. State Library Card Index of all  
names in early town records, records  
on microfilm  
N. H. Historical Society

## CORPORATION RECORDS (INCLUDING RAILROADS)

Secretary of State, Concord

## LEGISLATION HAVING TO DO WITH WALPOLE, N. H.

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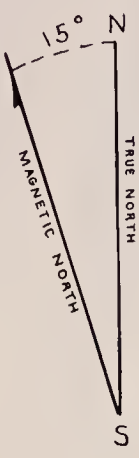
# MAP OF WALPO

KAROLTON KLASP-5 1/4 x 8 1/4

"MADE IN U. S. A."

THE AMERICAN ENVELOPE CO.  
WEST CARROLLTON, OHIO



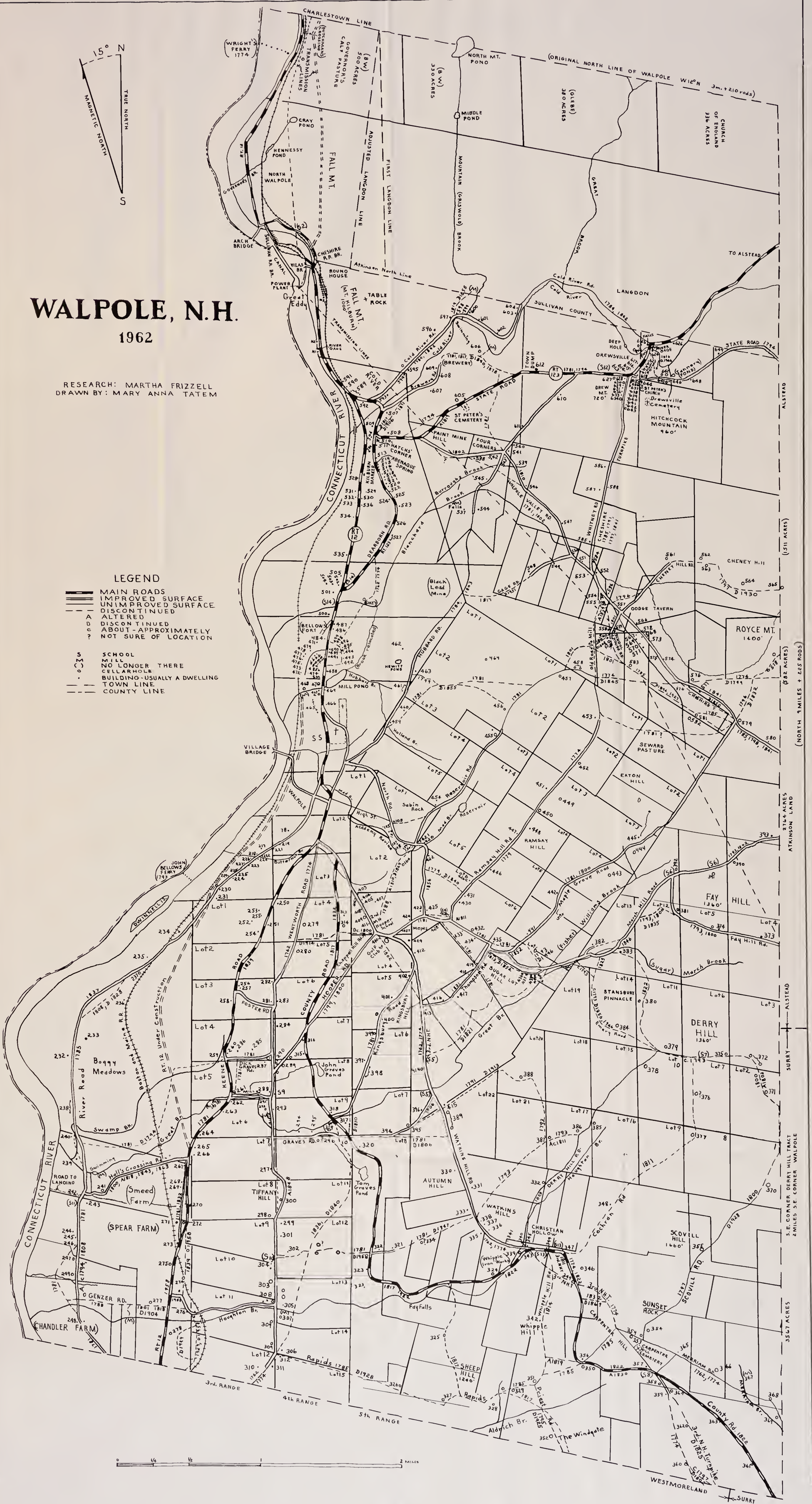


# WALPOLE, N.H.

1962

RESEARCH: MARTHA FRIZZELL  
DRAWN BY: MARY ANNA TATEM

- LEGEND**
- MAIN ROADS
  - IMPROVED SURFACE
  - UNIMPROVED SURFACE
  - DISCONTINUED
  - ALTERED
  - DISCONTINUED
  - ABOUT - APPROXIMATELY
  - NOT SURE OF LOCATION
- S SCHOOL  
O MILL  
X NO LONGER THERE  
• CELLARHOLE  
- BUILDING - USUALLY A DWELLING  
--- TOWN LINE  
--- COUNTY LINE





# MAP OF WALPOLE N.H.

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